



There are less than three weeks left in the 2025 Missouri Legislative Session.

At NCJWSTL, we are dedicated to tracking these legislative developments closely, focusing on bills that align with our mission of improving the lives of women, children, and families.

Please [click here](#) to view the bills NCJWSTL is following and whether we are in support or in opposition. The list will be continuously updated throughout session.

Act Now to Defend Amendment 3!



This past November, the **majority of Missouri voters spoke loud and clear when they passed Amendment 3 to end the abortion ban and kick politicians out of our exam rooms.**

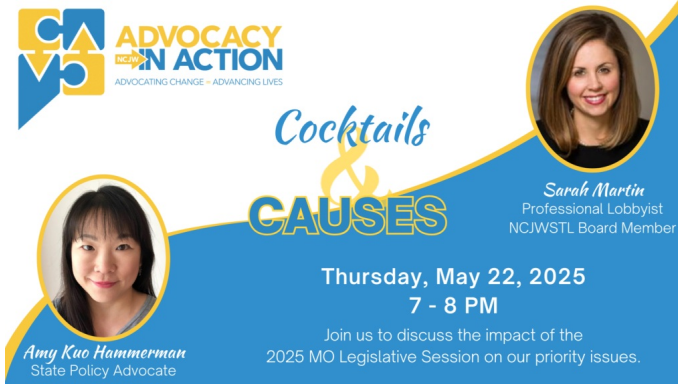
Amendment 3 enshrined the Right to Reproductive Freedom — including abortion, birth control, miscarriage care, and safe birthing conditions — in our state constitution. **Now, politicians in Jefferson City are trying to take our rights away and ban abortion again.**

Our coalition partners Abortion Action Missouri and Planned Parenthood of Great Rivers have two ways you can take action:

- **[Participate in a virtual phone bank](#)** - Volunteers who participate will be calling Missourians across the state asking them to tell their legislators to vote NO on HJR 73 before it comes to the Senate floor. A training will be included at the beginning of each session.
- **[Urge YOUR state senator to vote NO on HJR 73](#)** - This is especially important if you live in a district where a majority of residents voted yes on Amendment 3, but your senator is against abortion rights.

Act now to defend Amendment 3, protect abortion access, and keep politicians out of Missourians' exam rooms! Please [click here](#) to sign up for phone banking and [click here](#) to urge your state senator to vote no on HJR 73.

Cocktails and Causes: Sip, Savor, and Stand for Change



When: Thursday, May 22 | 7:00 - 8:00 PM
Where: NCJWSTL Office | 295 N. Lindbergh Blvd.
[RSVP Here](#)

As the 2025 Missouri legislative session nears its dramatic close on May 16th, one thing is clear: the gridlock of last year is gone, and in its place, lawmakers in Jefferson City have united to push a troubling agenda – including efforts to overturn [Amendment 3](#) and [Prop A](#), and roll back progress on several key NCJWSTL priorities.

But what does it all really mean for our community?

Join NCJWSTL for a powerful evening of **Cocktails and Causes**, where we'll unpack the session's twists, turns, and what it all means moving forward. We're honored to welcome **State Policy Advocate Amy Kuo Hammerman and professional lobbyist – and NCJWSTL board member – Sarah Martin** for an eye-opening conversation.

Expect candid insights, real talk, and answers to your burning questions—served up with cocktails and appetizers (trust us, after this session, you'll want both).

We can't wait to raise a glass with you and dive into this critical conversation!

Cocktails and Causes is free of charge, but please [click here](#) to register by May 20th.

Please note that the correct date is May 22, as it has been changed from a previously published date. Thank you!

Tell Congress to Enshrine LGBTQ+ Equality: Pass the Equality Act!



At National Council of Jewish Women, we are committed to building a just and equitable future for all. Unfortunately, we are far from achieving that vision as our LGBTQ+ siblings continue to regularly face discrimination. While an overwhelming majority of Americans support LGBTQ+ equality, a majority of states do not protect LGBTQ+ people from discrimination in housing, education, finance, or public spaces.

As extremists continue to escalate their attacks on fundamental rights for the LGBTQ+ community, Congress must pass the [Equality Act](#). This necessary bill would update the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, as well as extend protections for women, people of color, and people of all faiths. The Equality Act would ensure that LGBTQ+ people cannot be evicted from their homes, kicked out of a public business, or denied government services simply because of who they are.

Please [click here](#) to urge Congress to pass the Equality Act. It is well past time for Congress to enshrine civil rights protections for LGBTQ+ people into law.

ADD YOUR NAME and Help Us Oppose Censorship of Our Public Libraries

Protect Missouri's Libraries! Join the Right to Read Coalition by [clicking here](#).

For those who have already joined, thank you!
Check our member list to see who supports us...and if you've already joined by [clicking here](#).



Right to Read is a statewide coalition of 1,000 individuals and nearly 100 organizations. The coalition opposes legislative, state policy, or other efforts to restrict access to materials at public and school libraries.

Censorship denies our First Amendment rights to access books that reflect our diverse community:

- Missouri ranked third nationally in 2023 for the number of books banned at school libraries.
- 60% of banned books in the U.S. include characters of color and discussed issues of race and racism or presented LGBTQ+ characters or themes.

Laws and policies enacted recently have led to book bans and harmful regulations on our libraries. **We expect more censorship efforts in Missouri in 2025.**

Add your voice to thousands of Missourians to fight censorship and book bans!

Please [click here](#) to add your name as an individual member of the coalition. For more information, please e-mail the coalition at righttoreadcoalition@gmail.com.

Get FREE Emergency Contraception at NCJWSTL!



NCJWSTL is thrilled to announce that we have partnered with the [Missouri Family Health Council](#) (MFHC) to distribute **FREE emergency contraception kits**! This effort is vitally important in the wake of last year's Supreme Court decision overturning Roe vs. Wade, especially in states like Missouri where abortion is illegal. Everyone should have the right to determine when and if they wish to start a family, and emergency contraception is vital in preventing unwanted pregnancies.

Also known as the morning-after pill, or by the brand name Plan B, the emergency contraception pill is an over-the-counter form of birth control that can be taken up to five days after unprotected sex to avoid pregnancy. The goal of this effort is to reduce geographic and financial barriers Missourians face in accessing emergency contraception pills.

While supplies last, MFHC, NCJWSTL, and other partner organizations are offering free EC kits to anyone of any age. **Feel free to stop by the NCJWSTL office to pick up your kit - for you or a loved one.**

If you have any questions, please contact Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org. You can also order an emergency contraception kit by mail by [clicking here](#).

Take Action & Join the A-List

Now more than ever you will want to ensure that your name is on NCJWSTL's A-List for 2025! Join us as we stand together and speak out about the issues that matter most.

Together we can make a difference!

A-List sponsorship ads sustain our collaborative efforts to educate the community and elected officials about issues integral to our mission, such as birth control access and voting rights. The full-page ads will run in the St. Louis Jewish Light during 2025.

- **\$18** includes your name in the ad.
- **\$54** makes you an Advocate Plus with your name in bold.
- **\$72** makes you a sponsor with your name distinguished in color.



[Click here](#) to see the A-List flyer.

[Click here](#) to see the latest A-List Ad.

Join the A-list [here](#).

Interesting Reading



A sweeping budget bill moving quickly through the House threatens to make draconian cuts to Medicaid and SNAP—two of the nation's most vital programs for women and children.

House Speaker Mike Johnson has set May 26 as the deadline to pass the budget reconciliation bill, a measure being advanced under rules that prevent a Senate filibuster and allow passage without bipartisan support.

The bill is being framed as "all or nothing" legislation by Republican leadership—a vehicle designed to pass the entire Trump agenda without needing Democratic votes.

[Click here](#) to read the Ms. Editors' article from Ms. Magazine, "Critical Programs for Women and Families Face Deep Cuts in House Budget Bill."

Not yet a member of NCJWSTL? [Click here](#) to become part of a growing network of courageous and compassionate individuals who improve the lives of women, children, and families every day. You don't have to be a woman or Jewish to join!

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NCJWSTL

National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis



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