



ADVOCACY
IN ACTION

ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

Do You Have a Business That Supports Paid Sick Leave? Sign the Jobs With Justice Pledge!

Businesses thrive when workers are supported.

Without paid sick days, employees are forced to choose between losing much-needed pay or coming to work ill. This results in **lower productivity, more errors and injuries, and the spread of illness to colleagues and customers.**

By investing in better wages and earned paid sick time, businesses benefit from:

- Lower turnover and reduced hiring and training costs
- Higher productivity and improved workplace morale
- Stronger health and safety standards
- Better customer service that keeps people coming back

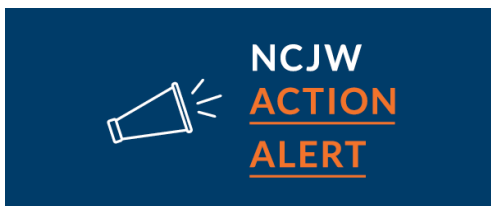
Proposition A, which passed in 2024 with nearly 58% of voters backing paid sick leave and raising the minimum wage. Outrageously, the **Missouri Legislature overturned the will of voters** by repealing the new paid sick leave law shortly after it went into effect in May.

Supporting fair wages and paid sick days isn't just the right thing to do - **it's smart business.**

Please [click here](#) to sign the pledge to continue to support paid sick leave for employees.



Tell Congress: It's Time to Extend the Enhanced Premium Tax Credits



The enhanced premium tax credits are a **lifeline** for millions of Americans who would otherwise struggle to afford health coverage, or go without care entirely. But these crucial subsidies are set to **expire at the end of this year.**

Congress has yet to act. The extension of these tax credits was **left out of HR 1**, the recently passed health care cuts bill. If lawmakers don't step up, families across the country will face **skyrocketing health care costs.**

We need Congress to **act now** to protect affordable health care and ensure families can continue to access the coverage they depend on.

Please [click here](#) to tell congress to extend the enhanced premium tax credits this year.

Tell Congress: Restore and Protect Health Care for All

Our Jewish values compel us to pursue justice, heal the sick, and care for the vulnerable. The budget passed by Congress and signed into law by President Trump represents a betrayal of our American values and our Jewish moral principles. By cutting Medicaid and defunding Planned Parenthood, a critical provider of reproductive health care, including cancer screenings, STI testing, and prenatal care, this budget rips away essential health care from millions of people.



We must urge Congress to change course.

[The Protecting Healthcare and Lowering Costs Act](#) would reverse all of the health care cuts in the budget, and the [Restoring Essential Healthcare Act](#) would reverse the provision to defund Planned Parenthood clinics across the country.

[Click here](#) to tell your lawmakers: reverse the harm and pass the Protecting Healthcare and Lowering Costs Act and the Restoring Essential Healthcare Act now.

Volunteers Needed to Help Keep Abortion Legal in MO



We're beginning to organize around a critical issue: **protecting abortion rights in Missouri**. You may have heard that the Missouri Legislature is bringing abortion rights back to the ballot under the same name, **Amendment 3**. We anticipate a strong misinformation campaign from the opposition and we need to be strategic in order to fight it. Although the new measure likely won't appear on the ballot until August or November 2026, [now is the time to act](#).

We are looking for volunteers to work the polls, knock doors, educate our communities, and notarize absentee ballots. If you're interested in getting involved, please [click here](#) to sign up. **It's going to take all of us.**

For any questions, please contact Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org.

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



Illinois made history late last month when Gov. JB Pritzker signed HB 3709, the first law in the Midwest to require public colleges and universities to ensure students have convenient access to medication abortion and contraception. In doing so, Illinois joins the expanding group of states requiring student health centers to offer abortion pills—California first in 2019, followed by Massachusetts in 2022 and New York in 2023. The bill was a direct response to student

advocacy and action!

[Click here](#) to read Carrie N. Baker's article from Ms. Magazine, "Illinois Becomes First Midwest State to Require University Health Centers to Offer Abortion Pills."

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!

Donate to Support NCJWSTL & Transform Our Community

NCJWSTL

National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis



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