



Take Action: Join us for Petition Training to Stop Gerrymandering in Missouri



When: Sunday, October 19 | 10:00 AM

Where: NCJWSTL*

[RSVP Here](#)

Redrawing Missouri's congressional maps right now isn't just wrong, it's unconstitutional.

Our state constitution is clear: new congressional districts are created only after new census data, once every ten years. Anything outside that process undermines the rule of law and fair representation for every Missourian. NCJWSTL is joining the statewide effort to defend democracy and protect fair maps, and we need YOU to stand with us.

We have less than 90 days to gather 116,000 signatures in order to qualify for the ballot.

Join NCJWSTL and Women's Voices Raised for Social Justice for a **Petition Signature Training** to learn how to gather signatures safely, legally, and effectively to help stop this gerrymandering power grab. Together, we can make sure Missouri voters — not politicians — choose our representatives.

Please [click here](#) to RSVP to Jen Bernstein. Every signature counts. Every volunteer matters. Stand up for fair maps and democracy today!

***Please note that this training will be at our NEW OFFICE at 311 North Lindbergh (the Joseph A. Bank building - office is on the lower level in the back).**

Tell Congress: End the Shutdown and Protect Health Care for Millions

The government has shut down because some politicians are putting their own agendas ahead of the needs of the people. NCJWSTL envisions an America where each of us has what we need to be healthy, live with dignity, and share our

growing prosperity. This vision is under threat as women, children, and families across the country feel the real costs of Congress' inability to do the most important job they have — to fund the government so it continues to function and ensure support for hardworking Americans.

A government shutdown that halts paychecks for federal workers and disrupts critical programs will not help families in need, nor will a spending deal that undermines our values and fails to ensure health care for millions. The Torah tells us, "do not stand idly by while your neighbor bleeds." We refuse to stand by while our leaders put families at risk.

Please [click here](#) to urge Congress to negotiate a spending compromise immediately that restarts government operations, protects health care access, and prioritizes people over politics.

Tell Congress:

**End the Shutdown
& Protect Health
Care for Millions**

ncjw National Council
of Jewish Women

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 on 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 [Beacon Reproductive Health Network](#) 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, Beacon Reproductive Health Network, 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

The U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments last week



in *Chiles v. Salazar*, a case that could determine whether states may ban licensed therapists from performing so-called conversion therapy on minors or whether such laws violate the First Amendment. The case stems from a challenge brought by Kaley Chiles, a Colorado therapist represented by Alliance Defending Freedom, an anti-LGBTQ+ legal advocacy group. Chiles argues that Colorado's 2019 law prohibiting licensed mental-health professionals from attempting to change a minor's

sexual orientation or gender identity restricts her ability to speak freely with clients. Twenty-five states have laws that ban use of the discredited practice on minors.

[Click here](#) to read Christopher Wiggins' article from *The Advocate*, "Conservative Supreme Court Justices Appear Skeptical of Colorado's Ban on Harmful 'Conversion Therapy'."

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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