

Kitchen-Sink Attack on Missourians' Reproductive Freedom

[HCS HB 2012](#) - [Rep. Kelly](#) (R-141, Mountain Grove)

The House Committee Substitute for HB 2012 throws everything but the kitchen sink to attack Missourians' reproductive freedom. It unlawfully blocks Medicaid patients from preventive care at Planned Parenthood, spreads inflammatory rhetoric, and seeks to ban common medications used for miscarriage, labor and delivery, and abortion.

HCS HB 2012 is a “defunding” attack on Planned Parenthood patients that could risk funding for Missouri’s entire Medicaid program.

- “Defunding” is shorthand for blocking patients' who rely on Medicaid from accessing birth control, cancer screenings and STI testing and treatment from their trusted providers at Planned Parenthood.
- Federal law protects Medicaid patients' right to choose their own health care provider.
- Barring Medicaid patients from choosing Planned Parenthood for health care services violates Medicaid's “free choice of provider” provision, which could risk funding for Missouri's entire Medicaid program.

HCS HB 2012 could leave patients without access to common medications that are also used for abortion care.

- The same medications used in medication abortions — misoprostol and mifepristone — are also commonly used for labor and delivery, [miscarriage management](#), ulcer treatments, and IUD insertions. The medications make certain procedures safer and more comfortable for patients.
- By imposing criminal penalties for the import, export, distribution, delivery, and production of these medicines, this bill creates a chilling effect on manufacturers and distributors. This could make it impossible for Missourians to access these medications *for any reason*.
- Black women in Missouri die at [three times](#) the rate of white women when it comes to pregnancy, labor and delivery, and the postpartum period. This bill will only worsen the maternal mortality crisis in Missouri, causing more people to needlessly suffer and die.

The term “born alive” is anti-abortion rhetoric designed to spread disinformation and fearmonger to ban abortion.

- This is designed to perpetuate stigma against people who have abortions and the doctors who care for them.
- The politicians pushing this bill have one motive: banning abortion in Missouri.
- This bill is completely unnecessary. Doctors are already obligated to provide appropriate medical care. To suggest otherwise is false, offensive, and dangerous.



Advocates of Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region
and Southwest Missouri

Missouri already has dozens of medically unnecessary restrictions on abortion, including a mandatory 72-hour delay, a ban on public and private insurance coverage, and down-to-the-inch building codes for abortion facilities that have nothing to do with patient safety. Enough is enough.

- This is political theater, and it's not how Missourians want their elected leaders to spend their time in office — especially during a pandemic.
- Instead of respecting Missourians' decisions and acknowledging the complexities of medical care, anti-abortion politicians are again using false and inflammatory rhetoric to distract from their real goal: banning abortion and punishing patients and their doctors.

Politicians won't stop at banning abortion. They have made it clear that they are building toward a future without birth control, cancer screenings, and other core reproductive health care. This is about creating a future where politicians are the decision-makers over our bodies and lives.