

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MISSOURI
STATEWIDE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
CALLS TO ACTION
MAY 12, 2024**

HEALTH CARE

Bill #: HCS HB 2413

LWVMO **SUPPORTS**

Short Description: Treats and prevents disease, increases access to contraception, and ensures healthcare facilities are properly equipped to conduct sexual assault forensic exams.

Status of the Bill: Will be taken up for a Third Reading (the final vote in the Senate), Monday, May 13

Talking points:

- Sponsored by a bipartisan group of Democratic and Republican women lawmakers from the House and Senate.
- Increases access to health care, removes barriers, and addresses maternal mortality.
- Expands access by allowing those with private health insurance an option to obtain a yearlong supply of birth control pills at a time – a policy supported by 77% of respondents in a recent survey (Missouri Family Health Council, Inc).
- Includes screening for sexually transmitted diseases; blood tests and maternal screening for pregnant women; mammograms; STI treatment and rape test kits.
- Passed the House with bipartisan support.
- Unanimously approved by Senate Emerging Issues Committee .

Link to the summary of the bill: [HERE](#)

Call to action:

5 for Democracy: Contact your Senator and tell them you support this bill. [HERE](#)

Links to further reading:

[Missouri Independent Article May 8, 2024](#)

LWV Position: Every US resident should have access to a basic level of care that includes the prevention of disease, health promotion and education (including prenatal and reproductive health). (*Impact on Issues*, p. 137)

GUN POLICY

Bill: HCS HB 1708

LWVMO **OPPOSES** this bill.

Short Description: Allows concealed carry permit holders to carry firearms on public transportation and in churches; removes ban on eligibility for a permit if applicant has pled guilty to misdemeanor offenses involving crimes of violence; lowers the age requirement for concealed carry permits.

Status of the Bill: Placed on the House Formal Perfection Calendar for Monday, May 6.

Talking points:

- "(T)he Second Amendment is not unlimited. ... the right (is) not a right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose" (Former Supreme Court Justice Scalia, 2008 DC vs. Heller).
- Missouri has the 7th-highest rate of gun deaths in the US (CDC).
- Gun deaths and injuries cost MO \$17.6 billion each year, \$455.3 million paid by taxpayers (EveryStat.org, March 2023).

Link to the summary of the bill: [HCS HB 1708](#)

Call to action:

5 for Democracy: Contact your House Representative [HERE](#)

LWV Position: Supports protection of the health and safety of citizens through limiting the accessibility of guns. Supports regulating firearms for consumer safety. (*Impact on Issues*, p. 153)