

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House Resolution No. 1826

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES LONG (Sponsor), HOUGH, HOUGHTON, DAY, WRIGHT, LAIR, GRISAMORE, SCHATZ, HIGDON, BROWN (116), DIECKHAUS, LAUER, CROSS, GATSCHENBERGER, THOMSON, RUZICKA, WETER, NOLTE, FRANZ, KORMAN, RIDDLE, DENISON, SHUMAKE, ROWLAND, BERNSKOETTER, SCHAD, JONES (89), LICHTENEGGER, McCAHERTY, COX, FUNDERBURK, SOLON, McNARY, LEACH, NETH, KOENIG, CURTMAN, STREAM, TILLEY, WIELAND, SMITH (150), SCHIEBER, BERRY, REIBOLDT, LANT, BROWN (85), FUHR, WHITE, DAVIS, ELMER, CRAWFORD, ENTLICHER, ALLEN, FLANIGAN, KLIPPENSTEIN, REDMON, BARNES, PARKINSON, RICHARDSON, NANCE, LOEHNER, CAUTHORN, LASATER, HINSON, DIEHL, SCHOELLER, BAHR, ASBURY, BLACK, KELLEY (126), FRAKER, KEENEY, FITZWATER, WYATT, FRANKLIN, JONES (117), LARGENT, ZERR, HAEFNER, CONWAY (14), MARSHALL, SILVEY, COOKSON, TORPEY, HOSKINS, MOLENDORP, HARRIS, KRATKY, MEADOWS, FALLERT, CASEY, SCHIEFFER, QUINN, SATER, FISHER, McGEOGHEGAN, SCHARNHORST AND POLLOCK (Co-sponsors).

2149L.011

2 **WHEREAS**, the life-affirming impact of pregnancy resource centers and maternity
3 homes on women, families, and the communities they serve is considerable and growing, and
4 pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes serve with integrity and compassion; and

5 **WHEREAS**, more than 65 pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes throughout
6 Missouri provide care to women and their families facing unplanned pregnancies, including
7 resources to meet their physical, psychological, emotional, and spiritual needs; and

8
9 **WHEREAS**, according to the Missouri Department of Social Services, in fiscal year
10 2010, Missouri's pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes served about 38,000 clients,
11 with services which include free pregnancy tests; baby and maternity clothing; diapers;
12 childbirth, parenting, GED, budgeting, and job training classes; housing; ultrasound services; and

13
14 **WHEREAS**, many pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes offer twenty-four
15 hour telephone hotlines; information on adoption and adoption counseling; referrals to
16 community, health care, and other support services, in addition to other prenatal services that
17 lead to the birth of healthy infants; and

18
19 **WHEREAS**, pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes encourage pregnant
20 women to make positive life choices by equipping them with complete and accurate information
21 regarding their pregnancy options and the development of their unborn children; and

22 **WHEREAS**, pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes provide women with
23 compassionate and confidential counseling in a nonjudgmental manner regardless of their
24 pregnancy outcomes, as well as providing abstinence education, domestic violence information,
25 and relationship counseling; and

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27 **WHEREAS**, many pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes provide grief
28 assistance for women who regret the loss of a child from past choices they made or the
29 circumstances they were placed in; and

30

31 **WHEREAS**, pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes operate primarily through
32 the voluntary donations and time of caring individuals, as well as the support of churches, who
33 are committed to caring for the needs of women and their families and promoting and protecting
34 life:

35

36 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the members of the Missouri
37 House of Representatives, Ninety-sixth General Assembly, hereby support the work of pregnancy
38 resource centers and maternity homes in this state and acknowledge their outstanding service to
39 women and families in Missouri in providing holistic life changing services beyond the state's
40 ability