

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 61

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHNELTING.

0887H.02I

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 1, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the Missouri religious liberty act.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 1, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 1.810, to read as follows:

1.810. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Missouri Religious Liberty Act".

2. During states of emergency declared under the provisions of chapter 44 or orders made with the powers granted under section 192.020, neither the state nor any of its political subdivisions shall impose restrictions upon religious houses of worship with the intent to make, or the effect of making, religious services impractical. Emergency declarations and orders shall not prohibit religious services that are held on private property.

3. The provisions of subsection 2 of this section shall not apply to emergency evacuation orders involving imminent danger from flooding, fires, tornadoes, earthquakes, terrorist threats, civil unrest, or hazardous material incidents that apply generally to the area where the religious house of worship or the residences of its members are located. Once the imminent danger has passed, religious services shall be allowed to resume.

Those religious houses of worship shall not be prohibited from resuming services once removed from the imminent danger.

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EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.