

HB 1854 -- HEALTH CARE

SPONSOR: Schroer

This bill provides no federal act, law, executive order, administrative order, rule, or regulation may infringe on the right of state citizens to restrict public funds, facilities, and employees from:

- 1) Being used to perform, induce, or assist in abortions;
- 2) Encouraging childbirth over abortions in the use of public funds, facilities, and employees;
- 3) Defending the religious beliefs and moral convictions of those who do not wish to be forced to participate directly or indirectly in abortions;
- 4) Preventing the state, its political subdivisions, and public officials from being coerced or compelled by the federal government from administering or enforcing a federal regulatory program that funds abortions.

It shall be unlawful for public funds to be expended to any abortion facility and any affiliate or associate of such facility.

If a taxpayer takes action to enforce the above provisions of the bill, a court may order injunctive or other equitable relief, recovery of damages or other legal remedies, or both, as well as payment of reasonable attorney's fees, costs, and expenses of the taxpayer.

Currently, any person entitled to MO HealthNet benefits is able to obtain benefits from any provider of services with which an agreement is in effect and which undertakes to provide the services, as authorized by the MO HealthNet Division, the bill repeals this option.

This bill mandates that the Department of Health and Senior Services suspend, revoke, cancel, or refuse to enter into any contract or provider agreement when it is determined that a provider is not qualified to perform under the contract as required. The bill provides such conditions for determining that a provider is not qualified to perform the service or services required, including the conviction of crimes related to fraud and patient care, patterns of discrimination, and that the provider is an abortion facility.

This bill is the same as HB 2 (2021 First Extraordinary Session).