



Planned Parenthood®

Monday *MONITOR*

January 22, 2007

Contact: Michelle Trupiano – 573.424.8717 (cell)

TODAY MARKS THE 34TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROE v. WADE

On this, the 34th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion, all those who advocate for women and families should agree to Put Prevention First and help women and teens prevent unintended pregnancy through increased access to contraception and sex education.

JOIN US – TODAY & TOMORROW – AT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

Springfield: Monday, January 22, 7:00pm. 'The Education of Shelby Knox.' Movie at The Moxie Cinema, 408 W Walnut, Springfield. For information and tickets, call 417.882.4668.

Columbia: Monday, January 22, 7:00pm. 'The Education of Shelby Knox.' Movie at Jessie Wrench Auditorium, Memorial Union, South UMC campus. Call 573-443-0427 ext 241 for info.

Kirksville: Monday, January 22, 7:30pm. 'Why Roe Still Matters.' Public forum at Truman State University, Baldwin 218. Call 660.665.5672 for more information.

Kansas City: Tuesday, January 23, 5:30-7:00pm. 'Trust Women: Looking Back and Moving Forward.' Californos Restaurant, 4124 Pennsylvania, Kansas City, MO. Call 913-312-5100 ext. 246 for information.

PHARMACY DENIAL BILLS RE-FILED

Last week, Sen. Jason Crowell (R-27) and Rep. Ed Emery (R-126) filed **SB285** and **HB412**. Identical to last year, these bills would protect pharmacies, pharmacists, and any employee of a pharmacy – including the cashier – from recrimination if they refuse to dispense (or support the dispensing) of contraception. **HB412** defines emergency contraception as an abortifacient despite the fact that it is approved by the FDA as a contraceptive. The bill would allow a pharmacist to refuse to dispense 'RU486' even though the medication abortion regimen is not available through a pharmacy, but only under direct contract between the manufacturer and the abortion provider.

HEALTHCARE NON-DELIVERY BILL RE-FILED

Rep. Bryan Stevenson (R-128), joined by Rep. Therese Sander (R-22), has refiled the Healthcare *Non-Delivery* Bill. **HB434** ascribes a 'conscience' to corporations, employers, and insurance companies and protects health care workers who deny health services due to personal beliefs and ideological values. It encourages self-centered health care delivery by protecting individual providers who violate their professional code of ethics that require patient-centered care.

PATIENT PROTECTION & FETAL ANESTHESIA BILLS REFERRED IN SENATE

SB72 (Sen. Justus D-10), that seeks to protect women from pharmacists who would deny them birth control, and **SB196** (Sen. Gross R-23), that would mandate physicians provide scientifically unsubstantiated medical information to women seeking an abortion, have both been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee. This committee is chaired by anti-abortion/anti-contraception/anti-stem cell research Senator Matt Bartle (R-08).

Readers: Do you like the new font? Is it more readable? Less clear? Feedback, please, to:

alison.gee@ppslr.org

MO FOUNDATION FOR HEALTH MAKES \$11 MILLION GRANT FOR HPV VACCINE

excerpts from St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Tina Hesman Saey, 1.17.07.

The Missouri Foundation for Health announced Tuesday that it would buy a cervical cancer vaccine for 30,000 Missouri girls and women aged 9 to 26 who don't have insurance or whose insurance doesn't cover the vaccine. The grant of \$11 million is the largest sum contributed by a non-governmental organization to protect women from several common strains of human papilloma virus, which causes cervical cancer and genital warts... The grant is also the largest in the foundation's six-year history.

"This is a tremendously generous and visionary grant to help those of us in the provider community take a giant leap forward in protecting women against cervical cancer," said Paula Gianino, president and chief executive of Planned Parenthood of St. Louis.

The cost of the vaccine — \$360 for a six-month regimen of three shots — has been an obstacle for many women and parents who want the vaccine for their daughters, Gianino said. Many private insurance companies and government insurance programs added the vaccine to their list of covered items shortly after the Food and Drug Administration approved it last summer. But many insurance companies don't cover the vaccine, and women and girls who don't have insurance are often unable to foot the bill themselves, she said.

"We believe we'll be able to cover, at the completion of the program, everyone that insurance won't," said Dr. James R. Kimmey, president and chief executive of the Missouri Foundation for Health. About 12,000 women in the United States are diagnosed each year with cervical cancer, and 4,000 die from it, Kimmey said. Hispanic and African-American women are disproportionately affected, he said. Cervical cancer is the 11th most common cause of cancer among women in the U.S., and the second most common cause of cancer deaths in women worldwide.

Up to 70 percent of adults are exposed to one of the hundreds of strains of human papilloma virus in their lifetime, Gianino said...The vaccine, made by Merck & Co. Inc., protects against two HPV strains that cause about 70 percent of cervical cancer cases and two strains responsible for about 90 percent of genital warts cases...The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that \$4 billion is spent on screening and managing the results of abnormal Pap tests each year...

The HPV vaccine made possible by the grant from MFH will be available at some clinics as soon as the end of this month. **Parents who want the vaccine for their daughters aged 9 to 18, or women up to age 26 who want to be vaccinated themselves, can call Planned Parenthood clinics at 1-800-230-7526 for an appointment...**

For the full text, go to:

<http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/metroeast/story/F4BBA63D16503D3E862572660011BEFE?OpenDocument>

WILL GOV. BLUNT ADDRESS HOW TO HELP 700,000 "MEDICALLY HOMELESS"?

Governor Blunt is expected to announce changes to Missouri's healthcare system during his Jan. 24th State of the State address, but already he has unveiled elements of the new scheme including "Health Care Homes" that would coordinate care for some patients.

The Governor's proposal, however, does not address health care needs for the 700,000 Missourians who have no insurance, nor does it suggest ways to make health insurance premiums more affordable for millions of privately insured Missourians who are struggling with the cost of healthcare for themselves and their families. As Kirsten Dunham of Paraquod noted, "If none of the services you need are covered, there's nothing to coordinate."

Since taking office, Governor Blunt has cut healthcare for over 100,000 Missourians-leaving them 'homeless' when it comes to their health needs. Health advocates are calling for Governor Blunt to make healthcare a priority by offering a proposal that:

- 👉 Guarantees quality affordable health coverage for every Missourian
- 👉 Restores health coverage and services to those who were cut in 2005
- 👉 Makes health care for Missouri's families a priority in 2007.

Statewide Website

www.ppmissouri.org

To Subscribe to the Monday Monitor, please click [here](#). To sign up for the Planned Parenthood Action Network, please click [here](#).