



Monday *MONITOR*

Tuesday, January 19, 2010

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TWO MORE INTRUSIVE AND RESTRICTIVE BILLS FILED:

Rep. Belinda Harris (D-110) filed [HB 1546](#), a bill that requires abortion providers to report to the state the reasons women give for seeking an abortion and what, if any, method of birth control they were using at the time they became pregnant. A much better use of state resources would be to provide better access to contraception and other prevention services.

Sen. Scott Rupp (R-02) filed [SB 747](#), an **Abortion Insurance Ban**. This bill would prohibit health insurance exchanges established in Missouri from offering health insurance policies *or optional riders that provide coverage for elective abortions and are paid for with private funds*. Missouri already bans insurance policies from covering abortion services although the law does allow for a rider. There is no evidence that additional rider policies are generally available in Missouri or the other 4 states with similar insurance bans.

CANCER PREVENTION BILLS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

[SB 627](#) (Sen. Justus, D-10), the **Cervical Cancer Immunization** bill, and [SB 676](#) (Sen. Wright Jones, D-05), the **Prostate Cancer Prevention** bill, have both been referred to Senate Health, Mental Health, Seniors, and Families Committee. These are sensible, non-controversial bills that can help educate girls, women and men on ways to prevent, or catch and treat early two common cancers.

REP. JEANETTE MOTT OXFORD RETURNED TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMITTEE

In a piece of very good news, **Rep. Jeanette Mott Oxford (D-59)** was returned to the House Special Committee on Children and Families from which she was unceremoniously (and very controversially) dropped last year. PPMO is extremely happy as Rep. Mott Oxford brings a wealth of common wisdom and knowledge on issues pertinent to women and children in Missouri, especially those in poor and vulnerable families.

MO HOUSE WILL SPEND TIME DEBATING NON-BINDING RESOLUTION ON HEALTHCARE REFORM

While more and more Missouri families suffer from lack of access to affordable healthcare, **Rep. John Diehl (R-87)** has filed [HCR 18](#), a non-binding resolution against federal health insurance reform, which continues the scare tactic that reform “might allow the expenditure of public funds for abortion.” The resolution—which has no force of law—is sure to get plenty of floor time and posturing, and urges “our Missouri Congressional delegation to vote against the current healthcare proposal and [...] further request[s] that our elected statewide officials express their respective positions [...]”

37th ANNIVERSARY OF ROE V. WADE | EVENTS ACROSS MISSOURI | PLEASE JOIN US

KANSAS CITY: Wednesday, January 20th—Discussion of “The Changing Climate of the Nation’s Abortion Debate” featuring KU Asst Prof of PoliSci, Alesha Doan (author of *Opposition and Intimidation: The Abortion Wars and Strategies of Political Harassment*). Cocktails/appetizers 5:30pm; Program 6:30pm. Tickets: \$37 (Young Friends \$17). For info/tickets: <https://www.ppkm.org/donations/index.asp>.

ST LOUIS: Friday, January 22nd—Freedom of Choice Coalition Reception at the Wine Press, 4436 Olive in CWE, 5:30 to 7:30pm. Mix and mingle with pro-choice friends and enjoy a cameo appearance by Lady HaHa, Kate Clinton. Complimentary appetizers, cash bar! Tickets: \$10 at the door. For more info: angie.postal@ppslr.org

SPRINGFIELD: Wednesday, January 27th—Reception & Awards. Join local poets and slam artists to celebrate choice. 7:00pm at First Unitarian Universalist Church, 2434 E. Battlefield. Tickets: \$10 (\$5 for students). For more info: crystal.brigman@ppslr.org

2010 Choice Lobby Days: Tuesday, February 16th; Tuesday, March 16th; & Wednesday, April 28th.

THE PPFA MARGARET SANGER AWARD GIVEN IN 1966 TO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

In 1966, Planned Parenthood Federation of America inaugurated the PPFA Margaret Sanger Award to honor the woman who founded America's family planning movement. In its first year, the award was bestowed upon four men, one of whom was the **Reverend Martin Luther King Jr.**, for "his courageous resistance to bigotry and his lifelong dedication to the advancement of social justice and human dignity"

Dr. King's award was presented on May 5, 1966. The citation read:

"This award is presented to the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., for his courageous resistance to bigotry and his lifelong dedication to the advancement of social justice and human dignity.

"Facing jail, abuse and physical danger, Dr. King's unceasing efforts — in behalf of all Americans — to win freedom for the Negro people parallel closely Mrs. Sanger's fight over the last half-century for the emancipation of women from the burdens of perpetual child-bearing and the emancipation of children from a future of poverty and hopelessness. Neither Mrs. Sanger nor Dr. King has hesitated to challenge unjust laws, cruel social customs and blind prejudice that hold people in ignorance and degradation. Our courts, our legislatures and — most of all — the human heart and mind have been the crucible in which they have forged a nobler history for all mankind.

"In the tradition of all great humanitarians who have seen that human life and progress are indeed indivisible, Dr. King has lent his eloquent voice to the cause of world-wide voluntary family planning.

"For Martin Luther King's unique qualities of understanding, compassion and bravery, and for his wise and unwavering leadership in securing for all people their basic human right to knowledge, dignity and opportunity that are the fount and principle of Margaret Sanger's life, this award is presented."

Mrs. Coretta Scott King delivered her husband's acceptance speech on his behalf. Before reading Dr. King's speech, Mrs. King declared, "I am proud tonight to say a word in behalf of your mentor, and the person who symbolizes the ideas of this organization, Margaret Sanger. Because of her dedication, her deep convictions, and for her suffering for what she believed in, I would like to say that I am proud to be a woman tonight."

HELP HAITI THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION

IPPF is helping to raise funds for healthcare in Haiti through PROFAMIL. 100% of all donations collected will go directly to PROFAMIL's operations, so they can get their clinics and mobile health units up and working as soon as possible. Go to: <https://secure.ga0.org/02/haiti>

Since 1984 PROFAMIL has provided low-cost, quality sexual and reproductive healthcare. As a leader in the field, PROFAMIL meets regularly with the Minister of Health to develop strategies for increasing access to sexual and reproductive healthcare.

Programs that PROFAMIL offers include:

- Sexual & Reproductive Health Services: PROFAMIL clinics provide family planning, early detection of breast and cervical cancers, high-quality sexual and reproductive health clinical services for men and women, and pre-and-post natal services.
- Mobile Health Clinics: PROFAMIL brings health providers directly to the rural communities where the people are totally isolated. Approximately 200 men, women and children are provided with basic health care services at each visit.
- HIV/AIDS Prevention: PROFAMIL conducts voluntary testing and counseling for HIV/AIDS, educates the public about prevention and ensures widespread access to condoms.
- PROFAMIL Youth Program: PROFAMIL provides youth-friendly clinical and educational services to young people aged 10-25.
- Health Education: PROFAMIL covers issues such as promoting family planning and presenting various methods; cervical cancer and the need for routine pap smears; relationships; gender issues; domestic violence; HIV/AIDS prevention with regular condom demonstrations. In 2006, PROFAMIL educated over 225,000 people.

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