

HB 1692 -- REQUIRED IMMUNIZATION LIABILITY ACT

SPONSOR: Boggs

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 5 to 4.

This bill establishes the "Required Immunization Liability Act", which states that an employer that requires its employees to receive an immunization as a condition of employment shall be liable for damages or injury resulting from the immunization. In addition, an employer can purchase insurance to cover and protect the employer and its employees from liability.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that they want to protect employers and employees by putting liability on employers who require mandates. Smaller employers were not mandating vaccines but the larger ones were. Currently the only remedy is back pay or to get their jobs back. For employers like Tyson, it is not going to cost them a lot. The only way to get larger employers to stop ignoring religious exemptions is to make them liable. No one seems to have any liability these days. We have the PREP Act and SB 51 (2021) relieving those administering the vaccine from liability.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Boggs; Andrea Granger; Angela Lindsey; Audrey Newberry; Deborah Bruce; Hannah Huff; Jenney Lynn Woodford; Jodi Widhalm; Judi Gambino; Kacey Dea Zelch; Karyn Fundaro; Kimberly Vane; Lanette Nordquist; Norm Farnum; Rebecca White; Victoria Howerton; Amy Layton; Aaron Nottingham; Aimee Ratcliff; Dana Guetterman; Garrett Coffey; Gregory Hansen; Johanna Beaudean; Laurie H; Tracy Forker; Adrienne Jacobsmeyer; Bret Hilbert; Koreen Hoffelmeyer; Mark Branstetter; Melinda Branstetter; Michael Westen; Sara Barnard; Scott Bates, Patriotic Response & Emergency Planning; Tasha Ritter; William Mannecke; Jason Moore; Koreen Hoffelmeyer; Lori Bourgeois; Michael Meyer; Becky Woods; Michele Smith; Rachel Deckerd; Pam Buttram; and Hannah Burns.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill submitted their testimony in writing, which can be found online.

Testifying against the bill were Susan Gibson; Pro Choice Missouri; Kathleen Hartmann; Missouri State Medical Association; Missouri Retailers Association; Missouri Grocers Association; Missouri Tire Industry Association; Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Emily Hornstra; Koreen Hoffelmeyer; Sheryl Foster; Missouri Health Care Association; Kansas City Chamber of Commerce; Arnie C. Ac Dienoff; and the American Lung Association.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill submitted their testimony in

writing, which can be found online.

Testifying on the bill were Acie Hunter; Stephen Jenkins; Twilah Hiari; William C Corley; Adams-Anderson, Dorothy L; Agnieszka Lass-Napiorkowska PHD; Julia Proleiko; Sylwester Napiorkowski; Leadingage Missouri; and Melody Moskowitz.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.