



C A M P A I G N  
**LIFE**  
M I S S O U R I

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Director

## Testimony in Support of SCR 37

### Provides Notice to the Revisor of Statutes of United States Supreme Court's Overruling of *Roe v. Wade*

Senate Rules, Joint Rules, Resolutions and Ethics Committee – Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 8:30 AM

Samuel Lee, Director of Campaign Life Missouri

[SCR 37](#) provides the statutorily-required notice to the Revisor of Statutes that Missouri's "Right to Life of the Unborn Child Act" – [section 188.017](#) – has gone into effect.

We fully support the passage of SCR 37 in anticipation that the U.S. Supreme Court will later this year overturn its infamous 1973 *Roe v. Wade* abortion decision, which will restore to the people of Missouri the right to protect unborn children throughout all nine months of pregnancy.

Missourians – and especially Missouri's unborn children – have suffered for nearly 50 years under the Supreme Court's pro-abortion ruling. As the resolution correctly points out, since the earliest years of statehood, Missouri lawmakers have protected the unborn – passing the state's first regulation of abortion in 1825. And up until the horrendous *Roe v. Wade* decision, Missouri lawmakers kept a ban on most abortions in the statute books, with just minor revisions from time to time.

This is an historic moment, but also a somber moment. Since 1973, at least **503,550 unborn children in Missouri lost their lives because of legalized abortion.** These numbers are derived from statistics compiled as required by law by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. (see reverse)

Let's put that tragic number in perspective. That is well over the 301,578 individuals residing in the City of St. Louis, according to the 2020 census. That is nearly the number of men, women and children – 508,090 – who reside in Kansas City, Mo., the census numbers indicate. Imagine a whole metropolitan area of innocent children having their lives snuffed out!

And the 503,550 unborn children who have been killed since 1973 in Missouri are just the ones we know about. That number does not include the abortions performed or induced by doctors or others that were never reported to state health officials. And it doesn't include the unlawful and unsafe mail-order abortion pills that are being shipped into the state – a number that is likely increasing every year.

Only God knows the true number of babies who have died in these nearly 50 years.

This is also a moment to be thankful to those pro-life lawmakers in both parties – and the voters who elected them to office – who fought and resisted the judiciary and passed pro-life laws to protect unborn children and their mothers. You stand on their shoulders today – and it is a profound legacy that you continue today with SCR 37. God knows and will reward them – and you – who have fought the good fight, have finished the race, and have kept the faith. (see, *2 Timothy 4:7*)

But I ask all of you to remain vigilant, because there will be attempts to get the state judiciary to find a right to abortion in our state constitution. There will be increased attempts to get dangerous, unlawful abortion drugs in the hands of vulnerable women. And there will ongoing attempts to attack our pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes that provide much-needed alternatives to abortion to women in need.

Year	Number of Recorded Abortions in Missouri
1973	NA
1974	NA
1975	10,245
1976	12,885
1977	13,533
1978	15,546
1979	17,787
1980	19,043
1981	18,604
1982	19,226
1983	19,199
1984	20,204
1985	19,482
1986	19,039
1987	17,574
1988	17,382
1989	17,495
1990	16,366
1991	15,473
1992	13,390
1993	15,540
1994	11,879
1995	11,203
1996	11,629

1997	10,202
1998	9,089
1999	8,113
2000	7,884
2001	7,797
2002	8,201
2003	8,350
2004	8,072
2005	7,977
2006	7,556
2007	7,324
2008	7,413
2009	6,881
2010	6,163
2011	5,772
2012	5,624
2013	5,416
2014	5,064
2015	4,765
2016	4,562
2017	3,903
2018	2,910
2019	1,471
2020	167
2021	150
TOTAL	503,550

Sources: [Graph D, Resident Abortion Ratios per 1,000 Live Births: Missouri 1971 – 2005](#); [Graph D, Resident Abortion Ratios per 1,000 Live Births: Missouri, 1971-2010](#); [Graph D, Resident Abortion Ratios per 1,000 Live Births: Missouri, 1971-2015](#); [Graph D, Resident Abortion Ratios per 1,000 Live Births: Missouri, 1971-2019](#); Personal communication with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.