

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 746
101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

0919H.02C

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 44, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to restrictions on the free exercise of religion during an emergency.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 44, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 44.104, to read as follows:

**44.104. 1. Notwithstanding section 1.302 to the contrary, the state, any state
2 agency, political subdivision, county commission, county health board, or any person shall
3 not prohibit or restrict the free exercise of religion, including attendance or participation
4 in any prayer, service, meeting, or similar religious activity, during an emergency.**

**5 2. During an emergency, any hospital licensed under chapter 197 shall not limit
6 visiting hours for clergy or persons ordained for religious or pastoral duties if requested
7 by the patient or the family of a critically ill patient, in accordance with such hospital's
8 established regular visitation hours and security protocols.**

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EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.