

House Concurrent Resolution No. 21

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHROER.

1613H.011

2 **WHEREAS**, the deeply held religious convictions and moral beliefs of the people of the
3 State of Missouri and the City of Saint Louis should be respected rather than attacked; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Saint Louis Board of Aldermen Board Bill 203 would allow the City of
5 Saint Louis to penalize by fines of up to five hundred dollars and imprisonment for up to ninety
6 days property owners and Missouri citizens who choose not to be associated with the abortion
7 industry; and

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9 **WHEREAS**, Board Bill 203 would allow the City of Saint Louis to penalize by fines of
10 up to five hundred dollars and imprisonment for up to ninety days religious institutions and
11 Missourians of faith for making employment decisions based upon their religious beliefs and
12 practices; and

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14 **WHEREAS**, Board Bill 203 would force the citizens of Missouri and the City of Saint
15 Louis to be complicit in the intrinsic evil of abortion; and

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17 **WHEREAS**, Board Bill 203 would violate religious liberty and individual rights to
18 conscience; and

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20 **WHEREAS**, Board Bill 203 would represent a grave abuse of local authority and
21 threaten constitutional liberties of the residents of, and property owners and employers in, the
22 state of Missouri and the City of Saint Louis, including those guaranteed by the Bill of Rights,
23 the Missouri Constitution, and Missouri law, such as the Missouri Religious Freedom
24 Restoration Act of 2003 and Senate Bill 749 of 2012; and

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26 **WHEREAS**, it should be the moral imperative of all governmental bodies to RESPECT
27 and PROTECT life at all of its stages; and

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29 **WHEREAS**, the United States Supreme Court has ruled that citizens cannot be
30 compelled to violate their religious practices and beliefs, such as in its 2014 decision of *Burwell*
31 *v. Hobby Lobby*; and

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33 **WHEREAS**, Board Bill 203 would violate Missouri law related to the regulation of
34 abortion including, but limited to, the right of conscience of health care providers and
35 institutions, employers, and taxpayers who oppose abortion and the funding thereof, as found in
36 Chapters 188, 191, and 197 of the Missouri statutes:

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38 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
39 Representatives of the Ninety-ninth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
40 concurring therein, hereby urge the City of Saint Louis Board of Aldermen to defeat Board Bill
41 203 and protect the religious liberty and right of conscience of all Missouri citizens, property
42 owners, and employers; and

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44 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
45 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the
46 Mayor, the President of the Board of Aldermen, and each member of the Board of Aldermen of
47 the City of Saint Louis.

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