



Missouri House of Representatives

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CONTACT: Rep. Jon Patterson
(573) 751-0907
Jonathan.Patterson@House.Mo.Gov

State Representative Jon Patterson Stands in Support of In Vitro Fertilization

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – In the wake of ongoing discussions and debate surrounding reproductive rights and healthcare, State Representative Jon Patterson is voicing his support for in vitro fertilization (IVF) as an important component of modern family planning.

"In vitro fertilization represents hope for countless individuals and couples facing challenges with fertility," Patterson, R-Lee's Summit, said. "As a society, it is imperative that we support and safeguard the rights of individuals to pursue IVF and other assisted reproductive technologies without unnecessary barriers or stigma."

A recent court decision in Alabama has caused widespread concern regarding the future of such fertility treatments, and has divided many over the issue. Missouri law states that birth begins at conception, but the Alabama Supreme Court's ruling states that frozen embryos are unborn children, which has caused many clinics in that state to pause IVF treatments.

While the stance of the Missouri Supreme Court on IVF remains ambiguous, bipartisan lawmakers have introduced legislation this year to establish the right to access and perform in vitro fertilization services within the state. Missouri's legal framework for IVF treatments and surrogacy laws is among the most comprehensive in the country, which some argue eliminates the need for legislative action.

Despite the transformative impact of IVF on reproductive medicine, providing hope to individuals and couples facing infertility, access to these treatments remains restricted for many due to financial barriers, inadequate insurance coverage, and inconsistent legal regulations across states.

Patterson's stance on IVF aligns with his background as a licensed medical professional, as well as his broader dedication to advancing healthcare policies that prioritize the well-being and autonomy of all individuals. As debates surrounding reproductive rights continue to unfold, Patterson stands as a steadfast advocate for the rights of individuals to pursue IVF.

"I am committed to advocating for policies that ensure an individual's access to IVF and ensure that financial considerations do not stand in the way of individuals seeking fertility treatment," Patterson said. "Every person deserves the opportunity to build a family, and IVF can play a crucial role in making that possible."

Representative Jon Patterson, a Republican, represents District 30, which includes parts of Lee's Summit. He was elected to his first two-year term in November of 2018. Rep. Patterson currently serves as Majority Floor Leader. For more information, please contact Rep. Patterson's office at 573-751-0907 or via email at Jonathan.Patterson@House.Mo.Gov.

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