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**MRFL Clarifies Law, Assists Missouri House in Limiting Tax Dollars
Flowing to Abortion Services and Other Research**

Letter to Budget Chair Icet Confirms His Budget Restrictions

St Louis - February 25 - Today, the Missouri Roundtable for Life sent a letter to Missouri House Budget Chairman Allen Icet that clarified the recent legal decisions that allow Representative Icet and his fellow House members to restrict tax dollars from flowing to the Life Sciences Research Trust Fund. A recent ruling from the Cole County Court Judge Richard Callahan made clear in his final order and judgment that:

- 1) Each year, the legislature may restrict the appropriation to the Life Sciences Research Trust Fund so that tax dollars do not go to abortion and other research;
- 2) The legislature is under no obligation to fund human cloning research which is sometimes called embryonic stem cell research; and
- 3) The restrictive language of the Life Sciences Research Trust Fund that stops tax dollars from going to abortion services, human cloning or other ethically charged research has been struck down, and the Missouri legislature will have to address the issue each year during the appropriation process unless a Constitutional amendment is passed.

"We are proud to play a leading role in clarifying that the Missouri legislature may protect taxpayer dollars by making sure that those dollars do not get spent on abortion services, human cloning and other objectionable research" said MRFL Executive Director Todd Jones. "Chairman Icet deserves credit for making the restrictions in appropriations strong and clear."

MRFL expressed concern that the appropriation restrictions will need to be inserted each year and encourages the legislature to consider an amendment to place those restrictions in the Missouri Constitution.

A copy of the MRFL letter to Chairman Icet was sent to all House Budget Committee members and to the Senate Appropriations Chairman, Senator Gary Nodler.

For more information about MRFL, please visit www.moroundtable.org.

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