



Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life

**News Release**

[www.mccl.org](http://www.mccl.org)

For immediate release:

**March 2, 2009**

For more information, contact:

**Bill Poehler, 612.825.6831**

## **MCCL joins lawmakers in effort to ban sex-selection abortions and human cloning**

*These human rights abuses would be outlawed by bills introduced today*

ST. PAUL – Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL) has joined lawmakers in an effort to ban two of the most heinous abuses of human rights. Two bills introduced today would ban sex-selection abortions and human cloning in the state.

“Minnesotans shake their heads in disbelief when they learn that an unborn child can be killed in Minnesota solely because of his or her sex,” said Scott Fischbach, MCCL Executive Director. “They are also shocked to discover that the University of Minnesota is seeking to create new human beings by cloning and harvest their stem cells, destroying them in the process.”

The Ban on Sex-Selection Abortion legislation, H.F. 1196 / S.F. 1073, is authored by Rep. Steve Gottwalt, R-St. Cloud, and Sen. Warren Limmer, R-Maple Grove.

New technology has made it easier for women to find out the sex of their unborn baby. A California-based company, Pink or Blue, can verify the gender of a baby as early as seven weeks post-conception. A woman merely has to send a drop of blood through the mail; a simple screening determines the gender of her baby with 95 percent accuracy. Recent research published by the National Academy of Sciences confirms that sex-selection abortion occurs in the United States. The exact number of [sex-selection abortions](#) that are performed is unknown, as women currently do not have to specify if they are seeking the abortion for sex-selection reasons.

“This legislation protects the rights of unborn babies from the bizarre yet real practice of sex-selection abortion,” Fischbach said.

The Human Cloning Prohibition Act is H.F. 1197 / S.F. 1072, authored by Rep. Steve Smith, R-Mound, and Sen. Ray Vandever, R-Forest Lake. Human cloning, whether for laboratory experiments or to create a baby, would be outlawed. Public institutions such as the University of Minnesota and private companies such as human embryonic stem cell research firms would be prohibited from human cloning.

“Human cloning is understood to be a gross misuse of technology that treats nascent human life as mere raw material in the lab,” said Fischbach. “Human life is not a thing to be copied, manipulated or dissected.”

In addition to these two protective bills, [Positive Alternatives](#) funding would increase under S.F. 1074, also introduced today. The bill is authored by Sen. Dan Skogen, DFL-Hewitt. A companion bill, H.F. 1093, was introduced Feb. 26. A previous MCCL [press release](#) explains the life-affirming impact of the legislation.

MCCL is Minnesota’s oldest and largest pro-life organization with more than 70,000 member families and 240 chapters across the state. For more information about MCCL, visit [www.mccl.org](http://www.mccl.org).

Please subscribe to our [RSS Feed](#).

*Minnesota’s oldest and largest pro-life organization, MCCL has been dedicated for 40 years to the single issue of life itself.*