

# Mary Coleman Extremism Spotlight

**Senator Mary Elizabeth Coleman introduced amendments that would let private citizens sue anyone they suspect of helping a Missouri resident get an abortion in another state.** Modeled after controversial Texas SB 8, Senator Coleman added amendments to HB 2012 to allow private citizens to sue anyone who helps a Missouri resident obtain an abortion out of state. Coleman told The Washington Post, “‘If your neighboring state doesn’t have pro-life protections, it minimizes the ability to protect the unborn in your state,’ said Coleman, who said she’s been trying to figure out how to crack down on out-of-state abortions since Planned Parenthood opened an abortion clinic on the Illinois-Missouri border in 2019. . . . ‘It’s just tragic,’ she said of the number of Missouri residents who get abortions in Illinois. ‘It feels very sad and heavy.’” Abortion rights advocates say the measure is unconstitutional because it would effectively allow states to enact laws beyond their jurisdictions. The bill died in the House. [[HB 2012](#), died in House, 3/29/2022; Washington Post, [3/8/2022](#)]

**Senator Mary Elizabeth Coleman sponsored a universal school choice measure.** SB 81 would expand vouchers and take taxpayer funding for schools and give it to charter and religious schools without income or geographical limits, with devastating effects for students. According to the Center for Media and Democracy, “ALEC’s ‘Parent Choice Scholarship Program Act - Universal Eligibility’ creates a voucher program to use taxpayer funds that would be spent on public schools to subsidize private for-profit, religious, or other primary and secondary schools. This program has no income limit for subsidy and therefore all students would be eligible.” SB 81 died in the Senate. [[MO SB 81](#), Informal Calendar S Bills for Perfection, 5/12/2023; ALEC Exposed, accessed [1/31/2024](#)]

**Senator Mary Elizabeth Coleman is a highly vocal anti-abortion legislator and pushes measures restricting women’s basic autonomy.** Coleman told Public Radio, “‘What we hear and what we see is that people are getting abortions largely because of crises that are happening in their lives,’ she said. ‘And so, my fundamental belief is that women deserve support, and they deserve equality and not having to deny what is fundamental about being a woman in order to be successful economically.’” According to the Washington Post, Coleman told a crowd “Women deserve better than abortion.” She told Politico, “If you believe as I do that every person deserves dignity and respect and protection whether they’re born or unborn, then of course you want to protect your citizens, no matter where they are.” [STLPR, [1/7/2022](#); Washington Post, [12/29/2022](#); Politico, [3/19/2022](#)]