



## **Proponent Testimony on House Bill 2749**

House Health and Human Services Committee | February 14, 2024

Chairwoman Landwehr and Members of the committee,

I am Mackenzie Haddix, Deputy Communications Director with Kansasans for Life. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2749.

Accurate data is necessary for the establishment of policies and programs that truly address the needs of Kansans. This includes data regarding circumstances that lead to abortions being performed on women.

Studies show women have abortions for a variety of reasons, but the most common are financial concerns and relationship status.<sup>1</sup> The most recent study conducted is more than 10 years old, so having current data for Kansas is critical to finding ways to alleviate some of the pressures women with unexpected pregnancies face.

HB 2749 puts into statute several elements of abortion data already required to be collected under the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's (KDHE) rules and regulations. In addition, the bill adds data collection regarding reasons women choose abortion and requires biannual reporting to KDHE.

In October 2023, the Society for Family Planning published a study that disclosed abortion numbers for the first six months of the year and were acquired directly from Kansas abortion facilities. It is not unreasonable to require these same facilities to submit reports of abortion numbers to the KDHE twice a year, and that the data be publicly released within 30 days of the end of the reporting period.

HB 2749 will help the general public and policy makers gain a better understanding as to why abortions are performed. From there, policies can be crafted to better address the social concerns of women facing such an important decision.

I respectfully ask the committee to pass out HB 2749 favorably.

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.verywellhealth.com/reasons-for-abortion-906589>