



## Testimony in support of House Bill 2135

House Taxation Committee

February 2, 2023

Chairman Smith and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jeanne Gawdun and I am the Director of Government Relations with Kansans for Life.

KFL strongly supports House Bill 2135, establishing tax credits for individuals and businesses that donate to pregnancy resource centers (PRCs) and maternity homes. PRCs offer a wide variety of social services to women and their families, both during and after pregnancy at no cost. Some of the services provided include: information on pregnancy, parenting and adoption, assistance with housing, transportation and utilities, maternity clothing, diapers, formula and baby clothes. PRCs may also offer medical services such as ultrasound, prenatal care, and perinatal hospice under the direction of licensed medical professionals.

There are over 50 pregnancy resource centers in Kansas, spread geographically throughout the state. This is a partial list of PRCs located in some of the committee members' districts: Hope's Place in Goodland, Mary's Choices in Topeka, Midwest Pregnancy Care Center in Coffeyville and Independence, Sparrow Women's Clinic in Lansing, Grace Place Pregnancy Care Center in Liberal, Insight Women's Center in Lawrence, Advice and Aid Pregnancy Center in Overland Park, Embrace in Wichita, Olathe Pregnancy Clinic, Kansas City Pregnancy Clinic and the Pregnancy Service Center in Salina. The legislature often creates tax advantages to encourage certain choices.

Mississippi and Missouri already offer tax credits for donors to PRCs and maternity homes. What is more important than encouraging Kansans to support the work of organizations helping pregnant women in their time of need and empowering them with life-affirming alternatives to abortion?

Several Kansas PRC directors are testifying today in support of HB 2135. Their hope is that with tax credits available, increased donations from individuals and businesses will enable their organizations to expand the variety and number of services they offer, increase their hours of operation, and widen their outreach so that they can help more women in need.

Thank you for your consideration. I respectfully ask that the committee pass HB 2135 out of committee favorably.

Jeanne Gawdun

Director of Government Relations, Kansans for Life 7

85-383-8636

[jeanne@kfl.org](mailto:jeanne@kfl.org)

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