

SB 528 Veto Message from the Governor

Abortion is an important moral concern to all Kansans. My Catholic faith teaches me that life is sacred. Personally, I believe abortion is wrong.

That's why I have worked to reduce the number of abortions in Kansas. In my three years as governor, abortion has declined 11.1%. My administration will continue to work to reduce these numbers even more. Next week, for example, I'll sign into law an increase in tax credits for adoption and a budget that contains a 65% increase in funding for the Pregnancy Maintenance Initiative, which helps counsel women on options other than abortion. These common-sense steps will reduce abortion, and will provide real solutions for women facing this tragic decision.

SB 528, by contrast, will do nothing to reduce abortion in Kansas. Instead, it will force women to provide intimate, sensitive health information to the government. Privacy is a fundamental concern to all Kansans. I worked to enhance Kansans' health privacy as Insurance Commissioner, and I intend to protect it as Governor. As we have seen in recent months in Kansas, we can never take our health privacy for granted.

Therefore, pursuant to Article 2, Section 14 of the Constitution of the State of Kansas, I veto SB 528.

Date: May 19, 2006

Signed: Kathleen Sebelius, Governor