

HB 2653
Jonathan Smith
Private Citizen
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Opponent
Written Only

Chairman Carpenter and Members of the Committee, thank you for taking the time to listen to my opinion on HB 2653 today. My name is Jonathan Smith; I live in Southeast Topeka, and I encourage you to vote NO on HB 2653

After giving this bill's wording a once-over, I'm reading the new...interesting, I'll say, interpretations on personhood, and all I can think of is the very very many new ways that this causes confusion in all manners where the government needs to know whether a person is a person. I'm talking taxes, Department of Children and Families, the court system, etc.

Additionally, how exactly are any of these systems going to determine date of conception, when it is already not a perfect science? Where is the funding going to come for, for all of these additional steps, forms, paperwork, and trainings that these agencies are going to have to do for this new 'creative' interpretation for what a person is.

Finally, it is hard enough to deal with all of the normal obstacles and roadblocks that come when trying to receive reproductive healthcare regarding family planning in Kansas. This is one more hurdle that women do not need to deal with regarding abortion care.

So, in conclusion, this bill does not need to exist, it makes healthcare more difficult, it increases bureaucracy, it fundamentally does not understand how conception works, and does not fund any part of these new steps. I encourage you to vote NO on HB 2653, and please stop trying to make reproductive care more difficult in Kansas, if you are not going to make it easier to raise children in Kansas.

Thank you for your time,

Jonathan Smith