

TO: Committee on Health and Human Services
RE: HB 2429 – Written Testimony
FR: Matthew Kleinmann
DT: March 6, 2023

Dear Members of the Committee on Health and Human Services,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed bill regarding abortion in Kansas. **As a Kansan and as a Christian, I firmly believe in protecting the sanctity of life and promoting the well-being of families.** However, I do not believe this bill is an effective way to achieve those goals.

Firstly, I want to reference the recent vote in November in which Kansas rejected a proposed state constitutional amendment that would have denied the right to abortion. **The majority of Kansans have already spoken and clearly do not support such restrictive measures.**

Secondly, I do not believe that simply establishing alternatives to abortions or creating a public awareness program around it will actually reduce the number of abortions in Kansas. **The proposed bill does not address the root causes of unplanned pregnancies,** such as lack of access to comprehensive sex education, contraception, and healthcare.

Instead of limiting access to abortion, **we should invest in programs providing comprehensive sex education, contraception, and healthcare to women and families.** Studies have shown that these effectively reduce unintended pregnancies and, therefore, the need for abortions.

Additionally, **the proposed bill is likely to disproportionately affect low-income women and families who may not have access to the resources offered** by the alternatives to abortion program. It is important to remember that women should have the right to make decisions about their own bodies and should not be limited by their income or social status.

I urge you to **consider the evidence-based approaches to reducing the number of abortions in Kansas** rather than simply limiting access to them. Investing in comprehensive sex education, contraception, and healthcare will ultimately lead to better outcomes for women and families in our state. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Kleinmann