

Proponent Testimony for SB 96 and HB 2135 February 2, 2023

To the Chairs and Members of the Senate and House Taxation Committees:

I am Leah Conner, the executive director of sister clinics: one in Johnson County and one in Wyandotte County.

I'd like to share a beautiful story with you. Recently we had a young woman walk in to our Wyandotte Pregnancy Clinic. She had just flown in from Texas that morning and had an appointment at the abortion clinic down the road at the Planned Parenthood of the Great Plains. For some reason she had our address and her uber driver brought her to us.

Two of our client advocates sat down with her and explained that while we do not perform abortions, we believe there was a reason she was here. We were able to share our support with her and valuable information about the abortion process and the risks to her. She was able to find connection and support with her advocates and ultimately, she chose life for her little one.

We ordered in lunch and the three of them shared a meal. In a meal blessing prayer that she led, she started to cry and thanked the Lord. In her fear that morning, she had been praying that He would help her get where she needed to be. This has been a powerful reminder to all of us of God's providence and power.

We packed her a bag with gift cards and some care items for herself and her baby to take with her as a carry-on. She left convinced that she was doing the right thing and was at peace with her decision. We have remained in contact and plan to continue.

Google is working to block pregnancy care centers on-line to protect abortion rights and the abortion industry. We understand uber gives free rides to abortion facilities, and apparently the abortion clinic offered this young woman a free abortion.

But when God has a plan, He intervenes, and things happen, and lives change. Women deserve to have good information and support; they deserve to know that they actually have a choice.

So often we see them lean toward abortion because with all they have going on, they fear abortion is the only solution. Once supported by the committed presence of another in her difficulty, women are able and willing to face great adversity and embrace the life they carry with courage and great love. It is inspiring.

We at Wyandotte and Olathe Pregnancy Clinics are incredibly grateful, edified and encouraged by this encounter. We also realize that we cannot keep this good news to ourselves. This beautiful story, and others like it, must be shared to show His glory and His tender Love.

There are a lot of lies flying around out there to protect the abortion industry as they prey on women in the state of Kansas. We believe the Lord may just want to use the people of Kansas, you, and I, to show His great love and mercy at this time. We are in this together.

It is vital for you to see firsthand in this story how your generosity can save lives. Every day we have the honor of meeting with these women being preyed upon by the abortion industry. We can offer our services and a hand of friendship and watch our dear Lord make all the difference.

We wanted to share some of the beauty with you today and ask you for your support in passing the bill out of committee favorably.

Thank you!

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