

Re: HB2365

Dear Chair Representative Kessler and members of the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs,

I would like to express my support of HB2365. My name is Ron Kelsey, Board President, Kansas City Pregnancy Clinic. I have been involved in nonprofit pregnancy clinics for 25 years and I have led efforts to start five pregnancy clinic locations in Kansas during that time.

I am very concerned about the actions in several states to restrict the free speech rights of pregnancy clinics and to attempt to negatively portray these clinics to the public. Pregnancy clinics provide tremendous value to pregnant women and to the states in which they live. Restricting the free speech of pregnancy clinics reduces the ability of these clinics to provide valuable services. Thus, pregnancy clinics need laws to protect their free speech.

I believe these free speech assaults are led, in large part, by Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry who profit significantly in revenues from abortion. In just the last decade Planned Parenthood has received over \$5,000,000,000 (five billion dollars) in government revenues for abortion and they also generate revenues by selling abortions to women. In contrast, the typical pregnancy clinic offers all services at no cost. Pregnancy clinics are largely supported by donations from the public. The abortion industry is threatened by the life-affirming services of pregnancy clinics which reduce their revenues from abortion.

Pregnancy clinics provide these life-affirming services to both the mother and her unborn child, recognizing that there are two human beings present. Planned Parenthood never mentions the unborn child, yet abortion is the killing of an unborn child. Clearly, they provide the opposite of life-affirming services to the child. A review of their website and literature reveals that they do not even use the word "child" and they do not acknowledge the biological fact that there are two human beings present. They want to restrict the free speech of pregnancy clinics to further their own deceptive interests. Planned Parenthood and abortion clinics destroy children and families and are detrimental to building a strong society.

Pregnancy clinics provide care, compassion, and love in delivering their services. These services are very popular and widely appreciated by women and families. And these services are not "one and done". On-going services for a woman and her child are typically available after birth and services focus upon the needs of the woman and her child, empowering the mother to successfully meet life's challenges both during pregnancy and after.

I believe that it is beneficial to state governments to encourage the social services provided by pregnancy clinics thereby reducing demand for state services. Support for families is a key obligation of state governments and pregnancy clinics help state governments fulfill that obligation. HB2365 is needed to protect the free speech of pregnancy clinics and to protect families.

Thank you for your service to the State of Kansas.

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