

# LOUD LIGHT CIVIC ACTION

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Opponent Testimony of SB 275  
For the Senate Committee on Education

March 13th, 2025

Chair Erickson and members of the Committee,

Thank you so much for the opportunity to provide testimony today. My name is Chloe Chaffin, and I serve as Fellowship Manager of Loud Light Civic Action, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that supports and builds the civic engagement and leadership of young people in Kansas. We represent over 12,000 Kansans, including supporters in every House and Senate district across the state. Loud Light Civic Action unapologetically supports the right to bodily autonomy as enshrined in our state constitution, including the ability for Kansans to receive scientifically accurate medical information and seek abortions without shame or stigma. I also personally come to this hearing with the experience of being a board member of URGE (Unite for Reproductive and Gender Equity): a national advocacy organization working in DC and six key member states, including Kansas, to fight for a world of greater reproductive justice. It is with these values that Loud Light Civic Action strongly opposes SB 275.

## **Concern: This Policy Is Not Evidence-Based**

No major medical organizations or credible sex-education experts are calling for or in support of this type of bill, though it has been copied and pasted in more than 20 states. In fact, this legislation is in direct opposition to the National Sex Education Standards, which encourage a focus on providing students with accurate, age-appropriate information through judgment-free delivery. Decades of public health research shows that following these guidelines leads to better consent practices, delayed age of sexual contact, healthier relationships, less STI transmission, and fewer unintended pregnancies.

This is not an act concerning medical schools for the education of future OB-GYNs and pediatric surgeons, this is targeting K-12 school districts. Where this policy is extraneous to the guidelines from sexual education experts and has no researched reason for being, it can be assumed that the intention here is only to mislead children about notions of fetal personhood. Educators have plenty of curriculum requirements to meet as is. Only evidence-based additions should be considered, but this bill is purely ideological.

## **Concern: This Bill Is Intended To Polarize and Shame**

The sole purpose of this bill is to reinforce the existing stigma around abortion. This is done in furtherance of one small population's personal opinions and religious beliefs around when personhood begins. This belief is not based on scientific determination and was wholeheartedly rejected by a strong majority of Kansas voters on August 2nd, 2022. Kansans have already spoken up about what we want, and this bill does not align with that vision.

Where the bill does not specify anything related to the contextual narrative that should accompany the required videos or animation, we are left to assume that implementation here will look similar to the implementation of

similar bills in other states. That often means school districts choosing videos from extremist political operations such as Live Action. These are groups that have been widely admonished for their inflammatory and propagandistic videos, spreading misinformation and fear in young students.

**For these reasons, Loud Light Civic Action strongly urges members of this committee to oppose SB 275,** and urges the legislature to please, do not introduce stigma-creating curriculum into our schools with information that may not be factually accurate through programs that are not evidence-based. Thank you all for your time and I hope you consider my testimony.