



Opponent Testimony of SB 275
For the Senate Education Committee
March 13, 2025
Taylor Morton, Kansas Lobbyist and Policy Analyst
Planned Parenthood Great Plains Votes

Chair Erickson and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 275 on behalf of Planned Parenthood Great Plains Votes ("PPGPV"). PPGPV is the advocacy and political arm of Comprehensive Health of Planned Parenthood Great Plains and Planned Parenthood Great Plains ("PPGP"), which offer compassionate sexual and reproductive health care to patients with four health center locations in Kansas. PPGP also offers comprehensive, inclusive sex education.

SB 275 would mandate that any Kansas school district offering instruction on "human growth, human development, or human sexuality" include a "high-quality, computer-generated animation or high-definition ultrasound of at least three minutes in duration." Although SB 275 doesn't specify directly, this bill could likely require students to view a video entitled "Meet Baby Olivia," which was created by the anti-abortion organization Live Action. The description of the "fetal development presentation" in SB 275 closely resembles a 2023 North Dakota law and reflects a national trend in similar bills introduced across the country.¹ Thus far, no other videos have been developed that comply with the legislation, which leaves school boards with few options but to rely on Live Action's materials.²

SB 275 could allow anti-abortion ideology into Kansas classrooms. Education about reproductive function and sexual health does not occur in a vacuum. Requiring students to learn about fetal development and setting forth no standard of medical or scientific accuracy will negatively impact young Kansans' understanding and ability to make well-informed decisions about their own bodies.

SB 275 does not specify the grade levels in which the presentation must be shown, nor does it require the presentation to be age appropriate. This bill also sets forth no protocol for ensuring medical and scientific accuracy. The National Sex Education Standards do not recommend viewing an ultrasound video for sex education, and displaying such a video is not considered best practice in the field of sex education.³ Under the guise of sex education, SB 275 could allow for the dissemination of anti-abortion misinformation in Kansas schools.

All young people deserve sex education that is comprehensive, age appropriate, and reflective of their needs and experiences. Teaching students about pregnancy should be part of a comprehensive, medically accurate sex education curriculum. Teaching medically accurate, evidence-based sex education empowers young people to grow into healthy, well-adjusted adults and fosters compassion and respect for others.

¹ <https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/documents/23-0582-06000.pdf>

² <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/article/2024/may/21/meet-baby-olivia-anti-abortion-sex-ed>

³ <https://www.advocatesforyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/NSES-2020-web-updated2.pdf>



Comprehensive sex education is crucial to the sexual health and wellbeing of young people and helps them:

- Reduce their risk of unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV.
- Delay sexual initiation.
- Improve communication skills.
- Understand the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships.
- Develop respect for mutual consent and bodily autonomy.⁴

Kansas school districts offering instruction on human growth, human development, and human sexuality would be required to comply with SB 275. Instead of promoting medically inaccurate and stigmatizing misinformation about fetal development, the Legislature should focus on improving standards for sex education. Kansas youth deserve access to quality, accurate, and comprehensive sex education that will empower and equip them to make decisions about their bodies, their health, and their future.

PPGPV strongly urges the Committee to oppose SB 275.

⁴ <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33059958/>