

OFFICE OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT



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**February 17, 2023**

**Senate Public Health & Welfare Committee**

**Proponent Testimony for SB 219**

Chair Gossage, Vice Chair Erickson, Ranking Member Pettey and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear today in support of SB 219, legislation that would simply add facilities where elective abortions are performed to the list of entities ineligible to purchase professional liability insurance from the healthcare stabilization fund.

The Health Care Stabilization Fund provides excess professional liability coverage for health care providers. As a matter of state policy, Kansas prohibits the taxpayer funding of abortion. It is a natural extension of that policy to ensure that abortion facilities do not receive any state resources such as access to the Health Care Stabilization Fund benefit.

Furthermore, it is my belief that we need to do everything in our power, as legislators and as citizens, to promote a culture of life in Kansas. This is especially true in the post-Hodes world. We need to be vigilant in ensuring no state benefits go to abortion facilities.

Kansans strongly support prohibiting the use of public resources to fund abortions – and this bill would ensure that Kansas law is consistent with that prohibition. Most Kansans would be rightfully appalled if a state resource such as the Health Care Stabilization Fund extended to facilities that provide elective abortions. Through this legislation, we will ensure it does not.