

HB 2749
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Private Citizen
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Written Only
Opponent

Thank you to Chairman Landwehr and Members of the Committee for allowing me to provide my thoughts on HB 2749. My name is Hayley Spellman, and I am a lifelong Kansan and voter in Johnson County. I write to you today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2749.

There are three reasons why I urge you to vote no on HB 2749. Firstly, there is no evidence demonstrating a medical benefit to those seeking reproductive care. It does not change the level of care a person receives during their visit(s), nor does it impact the overall outcome of the patient's outcomes. A 2019 ruling from the Kansas Supreme Court ruled that any regulation of abortion must pass strict scrutiny. This bill does not meet the standard of benefiting patient outcomes, nor is it medically appropriate.

Secondly, by requiring the disclosure of immigrant status or financial status, this bill is unnecessarily intrusive to those who seek privacy throughout their care. Making such invasive questions mandatory is a direct violation of Kansans' right to privacy. Asking someone for their immigrant or financial status has no medical benefit, and it polices the type of person who can safely access abortion care.

Thirdly, and most importantly, every abortion is needed and necessary. There are a multitude of reasons why an individual seeks an abortion. In few words, it is nobody's business why someone needs reproductive care. Abortion access is already stigmatized, and adding unnecessary required questions adds to that stigmatization. Reproductive care and access to safe abortions is a right in Kansas, and it is the responsibility of constituents and their elected representatives to protect that right.

In conclusion, I urge you all to vote no on HB 2749. Thank you for the opportunity for me to provide my thoughts on this issue, and thank you for protecting the accessibility and privacy of reproductive care in Kansas.