

Testimony in support of Senate Bill 98

To the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee

February 6, 2017

Chair LaTurner and respected members of the Federal and State Senate Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of Senate Bill 98. I ask you, do you believe an individual should be provided important factual data prior to any elective surgical procedure?

To be more specific, should a patient have the right to know:

- What doctor will perform the surgery?
- When the doctor attained their medical training?
- When the doctor began their employment with the clinic?
- Where the doctor has local hospital privileges and whether the doctor has lost privileges?
- Whether the doctor has malpractice insurance?

I believe it's reasonable for a patient to expect **and to receive** the answers to these questions and that is the goal of the Disclose Act. This allows us to assure any women intending to have an abortion in Kansas has pertinent information about the licensed individual that is scheduled to perform the abortion. The Disclose Act lets women be more well informed prior to giving consent to an abortion.

While the 24-hour consent forms for Kansas abortion clinics are available online, a woman considering an abortion doesn't have direct access to information about the abortionist. Women deserve clear, accurate information so that they can make an informed decision.

Mr. Chairman and committee members, thank you for your thoughtful consideration of Senate Bill 98 today. The Disclose Act is legislation that demonstrates our commitment to easy access to full information prior to informed consent. I appreciate your support of this legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Molly Baumgardner