

Dear Members of the House Federal and State Affairs and Senate Judiciary Committees:

I ask you to vote no on the constitution amendment HCR 5019/SCR1613 that denies women the right to reproductive freedom in the Kansas constitution. I am a fifth generation Kansan and alumnus of Topeka High School. I am currently a second year medical student at the University of Vermont but am a registered voter in Kansas. I hope to return to my home state of Kansas to practice medicine when I graduate. As a young person who is interested in making Kansas my home, hearing about proposed amendments such as HCR 5019 gives me pause in my decision to return home. This amendment is the first step in denying legal and safe abortion to women, and I don't want to live and practice medicine in a state that denies women the ability to control our own bodies and our own destiny. There are evidenced-based ways to decrease the number of unwanted pregnancies and outlawing abortion is not among these. Please vote no.

Sincerely,

Lauren Gernon, MPH  
Topeka, KS