



Testimony to Interim Senate and House Federal & State Affairs Committee

October 30, 2019

Chairman Barker and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jeanne Gawdun, and I am the Director of Government Relations at Kansans for Life.

In its April 26 ruling, the Kansas Supreme Court twisted both our state's history and the wording of our state Constitution in order to create a protected status for abortion.

The overreach of the Court in that ruling so trampled on Kansans' right to self-governance through elected representatives, that one wonders what—if any—public policy role the justices believe belongs to the electorate.

Nowhere is that public involvement more evident than the issue of abortion clinic licensure and reporting.

The backdrop is that there are NO federal requirements for abortion facility licensing and abortion damage incident collection. In the 1980s and 1990s, Wichita, Kansas had become known as the late-term abortion mecca of the world and abortionists throughout the state were racking up injuries, even deaths, in clinics with conditions termed "worse than Third World."

State legislators had a mandate from the people to act, and they heard voluminous testimony from both sides before adopting a comprehensive framework based on the abortion industry's own professed standards.

In 2003 and 2005, the Kansas legislature passed bills for abortion facility licensure, inspection and reporting, based on shocking public records of 3 patient deaths by a then-Planned Parenthood physician and over 50 cases of malpractice by Kansas-licensed physicians, especially against the abortionist whose lawsuit was awarded this ruling.

In 2003, Kansas City, Kansas police discovered the deplorable conditions at the local "Abortions Affordable" business (now closed) while there on an unrelated matter. One officer later testified that he and his partner were hesitant to even sit down at the facility due to the filth, and manifest insect and rodent infestation.

Elevate life.

Yet, when the District Attorney contacted the Kansas Board of Healing Arts to take care of the matter, he was told that “no law is being broken.”

A teenage “Abortions Affordable” employee was so horrified by the filth she saw there that she would secretly wipe down surfaces with rubbing alcohol when she could. This young woman, a high-school dropout, knew conditions there were unacceptably unsafe, but had no knowledge of the Board of Healing Arts or the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, nor their respective authority.

This staff whistleblower amazingly had the gumption to take photographs of the deplorable conditions, and the shocking photos (see attached examples) eventually became public.

In 2005, a 19-year-old Texas teen with Down Syndrome, in her third trimester of pregnancy, died at a Wichita abortion clinic, bleeding from all orifices. Minutes before her horrific demise from massive sepsis, the teen was writhing in agony on a hotel luggage cart, at the abortionists' satellite location. After that, the state legislature again passed a bill to license and inspect abortion facilities.

One person stopped both the 2003 and 2005 bills from becoming law: Governor Kathleen Sebelius, who vetoed them, claiming they were “unnecessary.”

One person again stopped bipartisan abortion facility oversight demanded by the public: Shawnee County District Court Judge Franklin Theis, in whose courtroom the 2011 licensure law yet languishes.

Six justices on the Kansas Supreme Court have now decided that the issue of abortion is a legislative “third rail --off limits to negotiation, compromise and statute --by the people of Kansas through their elected officials.

Kansans, however, do have a remedy for the unfettered abortion on demand which the Supreme Court has foisted on the state, and that is to amend the Kansas Constitution.

The right of self-governance belongs to the people, and they deserve to have a voice in this issue. KFL asks for your support of a Constitutional Amendment that will reverse the Supreme Court’s outrageous, out-of-bounds ruling and let the people of Kansas vote.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today, and I stand for questions.

Jeanne Gawdun

KFL Director of Government Relations

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Photos taken in 2003 at “Abortions Affordable” in Kansas City, Kansas by staff whistleblower



Dishwashers and open toilet



Unsterile surgical bedside with open trash and dirty carpet



Fire hazard blocked back exit with lawn mower as a “back-up generator”



Lab specimen prep room



Combination lunch room/drug prep/aborted fetus storage/patient files