

House Federal and State Affairs Committee, re HCR 5003
Kansas House of Representatives
Topeka, KS

13 January 2021

Emily Boevers Solverson
Lenexa, KS

To my elected representatives,

Thank you for your commitment to serving all of the people of Kansas. I'm writing to share my experience caring for women as an Ob-Gyn and to urge you to vote against an amendment to the Kansas constitution to further restrict abortion.

This week, I am caring for a woman and her spouse in clinic as they face the unthinkable: a pregnancy complicated by genetic abnormalities so severe that her newborn is expected to pass within hours of birth, if not in utero. While they face the heartbreak of inevitable loss of a child, her pregnancy grows more complex due to advanced maternal age, abnormal placental development, and the increasing risk of preeclampsia, diabetes, blood clots or death. As a provider, it has been very challenging to counsel her on her options for medical care – but I am grateful that she has options. She has the option to continue this pregnancy and accept the risks to her own health, awaiting the death of a child while risking her own. But she also has and is entitled to the right to end her abnormal pregnancy, mourn her child in a way that is dignified, rejoin her spouse and other children in health and live to attempt another pregnancy in the future.

This experience is hard, but it is a common experience as an Ob-Gyn. It is heartbreaking to support our patients as they face these inconceivably hard choices, but I am convinced that they should continue to have the right to choose. Thank you for preserving their rights.

Sincerely,

Emily Boevers Solverson, MD
Lenexa, KS