



Legislative Testimony
Charles L. McKinzie II, Sr. Pastor
Grace United Methodist Church of Winfield, KS
HB 2653 Fetal Personhood Bill

Kansas Policymakers –

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to HB 2653.

I am Pastor Charles McKinzie and have the honor of serving the parish of Grace United Methodist Church in Winfield, KS. Grace is a historic congregation established in 1888. This congregation has always been steeped in the Methodist traditions established by John Wesley. One of these core ideals has always been the right to health care.

It is clear that this bill is a legislative end-around of the will of the people. Last summer, Kansans went to the polls to speak their minds and made clear that restricting access to reproductive health care is antithetical to their values. As a United Methodist, I would echo that sentiment.

The United Methodist Social Principles say:

We recognize tragic conflicts of life with life that may justify abortion, and in such cases we support the legal option of abortion under proper medical procedures by certified medical providers. We support parental, guardian, or other responsible adult notification and consent before abortions can be performed on girls who have not yet reached the age of legal adulthood.

Using a bill which targets the financial well-being of pregnant people and leverages them as a tool to add language about “unborn children” codifying it into state law is an act of trickery and falsehood.

- This bill defines abortion more severely than current Kansas statutes.
- This bill creates additional work for an already over-strained system of parental support while providing no additional funding for the expectations.
- This bill demonstrates a massive lack of understanding of human growth and development. It fails to define how pregnancy loss might be determined, how paternity would be established and many other logistical issues which would only gridlock an already stressed system.

We, your constituents can plainly see the purpose behind this bill and hope you understand the consequences of supporting such toxic legislation. As those you represent we will be anxiously awaiting your response by the actions you take.

Ad majorem Dei gloriam,

Ptr. Charles L. McKinzie II
Grace United Methodist
320 College St Winfield, KS 67156
620.221.0618
charles@gracewinfield.com