

WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
HOUSE BILL 2324 – PRO-LIFE HEARTBEAT PROTECTION BILL

Chairman Arlen Siegfried and Committee Members
House Federal and State Affairs Committee
Kansas House of Representatives
RE: HB 2324 – Pro-Life Heartbeat Protection Bill

Hon. Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Sarah (Bideau) Cott, and I am here to testify in support of the House Bill 2324. I live in Clay Center, Kansas on a farm, and currently stay at home with my two small children. I work part time as a Mental Health Advocate for Early Head Start, have previously worked as an elementary teacher and school counselor, and am a licensed practicing counselor within the state of Kansas. (My father, Representative Ed Bideau, is one of the co-sponsors of the bill.)

I am here to testify on behalf of the post abortive women I know who struggle with deep depression and regret over their decision, the young teens I know in crisis pregnancy situations lost and looking for help, my own children in the hopes that they may grow up in a state with laws that value life, and most importantly on behalf of the countless preborn babies who have lost their life to abortion in the state of Kansas.

My husband and I are very strong pro-life supporters and believe every life is a precious gift worth saving. We believe that life begins at conception and would hope to someday to see all abortions prohibited. **We feel that this bill has the best chance of meeting a legal challenge, particularly in the U.S. Supreme Court, and would end roughly 85% of abortions occurring in Kansas. I am asking ALL pro life supporters to support this bill in efforts to save 85% of babies being killed every year in the state of Kansas.** It is only in coming together in support of a bill like this that we will take great steps to save lives.

I have known many women in crisis pregnancies who were gripped with fear, anxiety, and grief about their situation which led them to seek out an abortion. It grieves my heart when I hear post abortive mothers tell of the deep depression and regret they live with EVERY day of their life. It also grieves my heart to hear young pregnant teens struggling through the pressure they feel from family members and friends to get an abortion and how that feels more socially acceptable in our state than to carry the child.

What grieves my heart the most, are the number of preborn babies that die every year in the state of Kansas through abortion. Attached is a picture of my daughter, Hannah, when I was 6 weeks pregnant and first heard her heartbeat, and a picture of her now at 2 years old. I have also enclosed a sonogram picture of my son Carson when she was 18 weeks old moving around and kicking in my womb. In the state of Kansas it is legal to abort and end my son's life at this age. **Please take a stand for the lives of the babies that cannot speak for themselves and pass the House Bill 2324.**

Sincerely,
Sarah Cott
1471 15th Road
Clay Center, Kansas 67432
785-447-2970

Top picture: **Hannah at 6 weeks in womb with strong heartbeat**
Middle and bottom picture: **Carson at 18 weeks old**



Hannah: 2 ½ Carson: 7 months

