



Wichita Office
3301 W. 13th St.
Wichita, KS 67203
316-687-5433
kfl@kfl.org

Topeka Office
735 SW Jackson St.
Topeka, KS 66603
785-234-2998
kfltopeka@gmail.com

Overland Park Office
7808 Foster
Overland Park, KS 66204
913-642-5433
kansansforlife@aol.com

House Health and Human Services Committee

February 1, 2018

HB 2512-Neutral Testimony

Chairman Hawkins and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on HB 2512.

Because of the sad fact that abortion is treated as a "health service," this telemedicine bill must not be allowed to ignore or undermine legal abortion restrictions.

At this time, Kansans for Life's position on the bill is neutral, and contingent on the following language changes being adopted:

1. To avoid any unintended consequences, delete the wording in red from Sec. 6: Nothing in this act shall be construed **to authorize the prescription of any abortifacient, nor shall anything in Kansas telemedicine act be construed** to authorize the delivery of any abortion procedure via telemedicine.
2. Add the following language: The provisions of this act shall not be severable. If any provision of this act, the Kansas telemedicine act and amendments thereto, is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by court order, all provisions of the act, the Kansas telemedicine act and amendments thereto, shall be null and void.

These changes are needed; otherwise, HB 2512 will create a right to medication abortion through telemedicine that violates existent law.

Although still awaiting judicial review, the state comprehensive abortion licensure law of 2011 requires in-person physician delivery of medications that cause abortion. The provision was further legally clarified in 2015 (http://kslegislature.org/li_2016/b2015_16/asures/documents/hb2228_enrolled.pdf) to accommodate exceptions for emergency conditions, particularly hospitalizations.

Furthermore, the dangers of abortifacient (abortion-causing) drugs have not waned over the past seven years since passage of state law barring the obtaining of abortion pills without physician examination and delivery.

Our parent organization, National Right to Life, has consistently exposed that the removal of physician "in person" involvement with obtaining "medication" abortion employs significantly unreliable and incomplete data. See:

[New Study Claims Webcam Abortions are Safer Than Chemical Abortions performed at abortion Clinic: Part One](#)
[New Study Claims Webcam Abortions are Safer Than Chemical Abortions performed at abortion Clinic: Part Two](#)

Thank you for your consideration.

Jeanne Gawdun
Lobbyist
Kansans for Life