Dear Chairman and members of the committee:

I find it absolutely disgusting that the legislature is trying to restrict women's access to abortion in the state of Kansas. I want you to think deeply about the women who may be put into precarious positions across the state. There is no given scientific evidence that a fetus has any brain activity until later trimesters of pregnancy, so I demand to refuse the notion that abortion is murder. My heart aches for any woman who, God forbid, is raped and forced to become pregnant, and does not want to carry the baby to term due to psychological risk factors. I weep for underage women who make unfortunate decisions or are forced into less than desirable circumstances with high school boyfriends and face detrimental situations, whether it be a risk to their own health or the shame of facing their family because they didn't have access to abortion. I cry for women whose lives are on the line due to medical complications during pregnancy, some to the point where an abortion is the only option for their survival. In an attempt to restrict women's choices to control their own bodies, this amendment could restrict a woman's access to a procedure that could save her life. Many of you tie your religious beliefs to your political stance on abortion, obviously forgetting the separation of church and state that our governing bodies should be observing. However, since we are wrapping our religious beliefs into this hyper-politicized discussion, please let me explain mine. As a proud United Methodist protestant Christian, it is my belief that my God is understanding, and supports his daughters in Christ. He is a logical God who understands the severity of a situation when a woman is forced to undergo the very unfortunate situation of needing an abortion. My God understands situations in which women are required to make often-times devastating decisions in order to protect their lives. My God is all-inclusive, all forgiving, and understanding. My God is not a God who casts out people who have had an abortion, and even if he wasn't, you do not speak for him, as I do not. You should all feel ashamed, and I urge you to vote AGAINST HCR5019. Do NOT move forward on this issue until you grow a conscience, remove your religion from your politics, and realize how harmful your actions will be to the women of the great state of Kansas if this Amendment is approved.

-Jae Moyer Overland Park, Kansas