



## Proponent Testimony on House Bill 2062

House Judiciary Committee | January 29, 2025

Chairwoman Humphries and Members of the committee,

I am Jeanne Gawdun, Director of Government Relations with Kansans for Life. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2062.

According to 2023 data from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, approximately 36% of all live births were to single mothers and nearly 83% of all abortions were performed on single women.<sup>1</sup>

Many women facing unexpected pregnancies choose abortion because of financial insecurity or uncertain relationship status.<sup>2</sup> They deserve the utmost help in their time of need, including support from the father of the preborn child.

HB 2062 addresses some of the financial concerns pregnant women face by instructing the court to consider the direct pregnancy-related medical and other expenses for the mother of a preborn child, when establishing guidelines for child support payments.

While it may not always be the case that paternity is known before the birth of the child, once paternity is established, the court may make child support payments retroactive to include expenses incurred by the mother during the time her child was unborn.

No woman should ever feel that abortion is her only option and HB 2062 may help alleviate some of the financial stress a pregnant woman faces at a critical time for her and her child.

Thank you for your consideration. I respectfully ask that the committee pass HB 2062 out favorably.

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/43918/-2023-Annual-Summary-Full-Report-PDF?bidId=>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.verywellhealth.com/reasons-for-abortion-906589>

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