

Matthew Reimer

Private Citizen

HB 2062

Written Only

Opponent

2/25/2025

Thank you Chairman Warren and Members of the Committee for letting my voice be heard through the medium of writing my opinion on this bill. My name is Matthew Reimer, I am a voter in Douglas County, and I urge you all to vote no on HB 2062 for the sake of everyone in the state of my home. And especially for the women who are going to need more legal protections in the incoming years.

I've been feeling a lot of fear lately. I fear for the future we are currently hurdling towards in this nation. I fear for the outcome of this vote. I fear that in the upcoming years Kansas, my home, will no longer be safe for women. I view this bill as a way to set a precedent of declaring fetuses people with the goal of eventually undermining women's reproductive rights. Kansas already voted to protect abortion in 2022 in a significant majority and it would break my heart to see that circumvented.

The optics of HB 2062 are not lost on me. The wording is meant to imply a vote for no would be a vote against pregnant people. This is not the case. Pregnant people should absolutely be protected, and an important aspect of protection would be for people who want to safely terminate their pregnancy.

I understand that a declining birthrate is scary, but there is a more equitable way to help people raise children instead of incentivising people take their pregnancy to term even if they can't raise or support a child. Supporting pregnant women is more than just funding the pregnancy and possibly the child's education.

Protecting women is about more than protecting women who have the means and desire for children. It's about protecting everyone's freedom to choose for themselves how they want to live their lives. And for that fundamental right I encourage all of you to vote no for the passage of HB 2062. Thank you for your time.