

## TESTIMONY Concerned Women for America of Kansas SR 199

Chairperson Pilcher-Cook and members of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee:

As State Director of Concerned Women for America, I am pleased to testify in favor of SB 199. Adult stem cell research is showing such promise in new treatments and therapies to treat otherwise hopeless and debilitating diseases; the establishment of a research facility at KU Medical Center would be a boon not only to Kansas but to those who so desperately need hope.

On a personal note, my husband Jim received a heart transplant over five years ago. My first question to the transplant team doctors was, "What about stem cell therapy to repair my husband's heart? Their answer was "Someday, but not now." He did receive a new heart, and it is a new lease on life for him, but the anti-rejection drugs have accelerated the growth of numerous serious skin cancers, one requiring a large skin graft on his face. Adult stem cell therapies that could be developed at this type of research center could avoid the side-effects and problems of anti-rejection drugs in the future.

For our own personal reasons and for the future good of medical research, I urge you to support this bill. Lives could be helped and saved.

We urge you to pass this bill.

Judy Smith
State Director
Concerned Women for America of Kansas

CWA of Kansas P.O. Box 11233 Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66207