

204 SW 8TH AVE • TOPEKA, KANSAS 66603 • PHONE 785-227-9247 • FAX 785-861-7438 • WWW.KSCATHCONF.ORG

Testimony in Support of SB 98 – The DISCLOSE Act Michael Schuttloffel, Executive Director Kansas Catholic Conference

Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs February 7, 2017 10:30 AM

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

The Kansas Catholic Conference supports SB 98, legislation that builds on past efforts to ensure that women have access to appropriate information before undergoing an abortion.

Whether it was the Kansas City Police's discovery of the heinously filthy facilities of Dr. Krishna Rajanna, or the Philadelphia District Attorney's grand jury report on the house of horrors that was Kermit Gosnell's abortion clinic charnel house, or David Daleiden's undercover videos showing Planned Parenthood trafficking in fetal body parts, a mountain of evidence bears witness to how the abortion industry operates outside the legal and moral rules that apply to the rest of the medical industry. The industry labors mightily to keep a shroud of secrecy drawn across its work, fighting against all efforts to shine the light of day upon what it is they do and what kind of people are doing it. Because of this reality, and because abortion is a procedure unlike any other, a woman absolutely should not be denied information relevant to the credentials of an abortionist that she might wish to consider.

Surely everyone can agree that a woman should have access to information about the qualifications of a doctor who is about to perform a medical procedure upon her. Why not allow a woman to decide for herself what weight to give information about an abortion doctor's disciplinary history and admitting privileges? Ultimately, we are confident that ensuring that women have access to sound, accurate information will be in service of the cause of women's health, and of life.

We respectfully request the committee's support for SB 98, thank you.