

HCR 5019

Attn: Connie Bahner and Chair John Barker

To: Members of the House Federal and State Committee

Dear Chairman Barker and members of the House Federal and State Committee,

I write to you today as a Kansas physician who opposes HCR 5019.

I oppose any amendment to the Kansas Constitution that constrains a woman's access to abortion or other reproductive health care.

Women come to a variety of complex health care decisions, including those surrounding abortion, in collaboration with their physicians and families. Governmental interference has no role in such personal health care decisions or the counseling relationship between a woman and her physician.

A review of the proposed bill is highly concerning, as it clearly opens the possibility for the state to undermine a woman's autonomy as a patient. The Kansas Constitution currently provides for a woman's right to make her own health care decisions, and it should not be altered.

Further, I am extremely concerned about the process by which this bill has been introduced. The rapid turnaround of such a high impact bill is antithetical to a government serving its constituents, restricting the opportunity for input and consideration. I would hope that the majority instead aims for better governance.

Please vote no on HCR 5019.

Sincerely,

Lynne E. Kallenbach M.D.

Board Certified Internal Medicine, Geriatric Medicine, Hospice and Palliative Medicine