

**Kansas House Federal and State Affairs Committee  
Kansas Senate Judiciary Committee  
9:00 AM, Room 346 -S  
Testimony in Opposition to HCR 5109  
Alexi Dejulio, KS  
Tuesday, 21 January 2020**

Dear Chairman Barker, Chairman Rucker and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in opposition to HCR 5109.

I have always grown up knowing that in life you can make your own decisions. Whether it was choosing what I was going to wear or where I wanted to go to school. Having the ability to decide my own fate and the outcome in life that I want has always been a positive thing for me.

When I first found out that I was pregnant, I instantly knew what my decision was. I have worked incredibly for so long to be in a position where I could finally support myself. I have grown up with cousins, nephews, and niece's younger than me. I would watch them and I love them dearly. However, I always knew and felt that I was not meant to be a mother.

Already terrified at the idea, seeing the positive read on the pregnancy test made me feel like I was going to pass out. It wasn't even a question about what my decision would be. I wasn't ready to be a mother; I can barely support myself, let alone support myself and a child. I was concerned for my health and what could possibly happen. I knew if I were to ever have a child, it would be when I was fully equipped to support my child.

Having the option to decide my future made me feel safe. Making that decision about my health care was the ultimate form of self-love. More importantly, I was able to make a decision that would positively influence my life story. I think it is incredibly terrifying that politicians are voting against my right to decide and the rights of all women to decide how we live and survive. Not only does the freedom of choice give women the power to feel safe and protected; it protects women from horrible outcomes.

I feel incredibly passionate about having the right to decide what is in the best interest for me and many women all over the state. Each woman has an incredibly different situation, some of which are life and death. Please understand this is important.