

HB 2653
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Private Citizen
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OPPONENT
WRITTEN ONLY

Chairman Carpenter and Members of the Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to share my concerns as it relates to HB 2653. My name is ShaMecha King Simms — I am a resident and voter in Shawnee County. I am asking the committee to vote “No” on HB 2653.

Overreach by various forms of government has been a consistent issue that members of the legislature have utilized when it benefits their end goal. This bill is a powerful misuse of “responsibility” to goad individuals into financial arrangements that center the state; not the well-being of the lives involved in the matter. From personal experience, the period of gestation is a vulnerable time for all involved — even under the best of circumstances. Tempers flare; relationships become strained; and it’s all too end up creating a bureaucratic knot. It would be better — wonderful, even — to see the legislature work with health insurance companies to expand coverage for expecting parents who do not operate in traditional roles. The issue isn’t child support for medical coverage; the issue is our medical coverage programs aren’t inclusive enough — yet. The state shouldn’t penalize for access to services that ensure healthy pregnancy and maternal outcomes.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns. I encourage you to vote “No” on the passage of HB 2653 and allow insurance providers to evolve with the changing dynamics.

Thank you!