

Approved: 3/26/12
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steven R. Brunk at 1:30 p.m. on February 09, 2012, in Room 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Goico – Excused
Representative Holmes – Excused
Representative Kiegerl – Excused
Representative Peterson – Excused
Representative Victors - Excused

Committee staff present:

Mike Heim, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Julian Efird, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Stephen Bainum, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Jeanne Gawdun, Kansans for Life
Sarah Gillooly, Planned Parenthood
Kari Ann Rinker, Kansas NOW

Others attending: See attached.

Representative Gatewood introduced a bill about sexual assault survivor's right to emergency contraception information.

The Chairman reopened the hearing on **HB 2598—Creating the no taxpayer funding for abortion act; amending statutes concerning late-term abortion restrictions.**

Jeanne Gawdun presented testimony as a proponent of **HB 2598** (Attachment 1). Her testimony indicated that the State is not prohibited from choosing not to fund abortion. This bill prevents state funding of abortion, excluding those to save the mother's life. **HB 2598** also removes tax breaks for abortion performing businesses.

Roe does not bar the state from securing the "protectable interests" on unborn children in tort or probate law. The bill will also disallow wrongful-life and wrongful-death lawsuits. Abortions done due to the unborn child's gender will also be prohibited.

HB 2598 will also help protect the interests of parents to receive accurate medical information about human gestation and abortion risks.

Representative Rubin asked if she could comment on the one child policy in china and its consequences. Jeanne said that one consequence was that there were a lot fewer girls which was causing societal problems.

Sarah Gillooly testified as an opponent of **HB 2598** (Attachment 2). She indicated that **HB 2598** requires

CONTINUATION SHEET

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physicians to provide medically inaccurate information to patients, violates the rights of patients and the professional and ethical responsibilities of physicians.

Kari Ann Rinker provided testimony as an opponent of **HB 2598** (Attachment 3). Her testimony indicated that Sections 1-7 fails to include any exception for rape, incest or irreversible physical impairment to a major bodily function.

Section 8 creates a new civil cause of action for the family members of women who have abortions. Section 9 is a direct attack on Planned Parenthood's human sexuality education programs.

Her testimony also denies any link between abortion and increased incident of breast cancer and said it requires physicians to lie about it.

Her verbal testimony did not mention any of these things from her written testimony. Instead she complained bitterly that the proponents to the bill would not be give their word any credence, thought or respect. She verbally attacked the Chair and the Committee, and additionally produced a large rubber stamp indicating "APPROVED".

Representative Brunk said that he had been on the Committee for 10 years and asked if you or any of your predecessors have ever been denied an opportunity to say or speak or testify about whatever you wanted to regarding a particular bill before this Committee? It would seem to me that I have gone out of my way to give both sides an open time to say and testify whatever they wanted to.

Representative Rubin was surprised that the Chair had enough patience to allow the attacks on the integrity and competence of this Committee. He also said that the most fundamental right that anyone has is the right to life and that over half of all the human beings that are killed by abortion are women. He also said that citizens of Kansas and the United States in poll after poll reject the position you advocate.

Representative O'Hara said that she wanted her children and grandchildren to know that there are dangers in receiving an abortion.

Representative Seiwert agreed with Representative Rubin.

Representative Bowman asked what was meant by fear-mongering. She said it was the constant bringing up the dangers of abortion.

Representative Grosserode said that you see it as a right for a woman to make a choice; I see it as a right for a being, a genetic being, to exist. There is no reconciliation of those two views. However our communication should always be with respect.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2598**.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:43 p.m.