



**KANSAS NOW**

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**March 26, 2013**

**TO: Members of the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs**  
**FR: Elise Higgins, Lobbyist and State Co-Coordinator, Kansas NOW**  
**RE: House Bill 2324, Opponent Testimony**

Good morning, Chairman Siegfried and members of the House Federal and State Affairs Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the Kansas National Organization for Women and its more than 1,000 members across the state.

House Bill 2324 is unprecedented in its extremity, will multiply the state's already high legal bill in its defense, and was not announced with enough time for public opposition.

- The bill could prevent a woman experiencing irregular menstrual periods from having an abortion before she even realizes she is pregnant and **could ban abortions as early as 18 to 24 days after conception.**<sup>1</sup>
- The bill would multiply the over \$700,000 in legal expenses Kansas taxpayers have already spent defending unconstitutional abortion restrictions over the past 2 years.
- The bill contains no exceptions for pregnancies resulting from rape or incest.
- The bill would make Kansas' anti-abortion statute the most extreme in the United States, driving up incidents of unsafe, illegal abortions.
- The bill's hearing was announced to the general public less than 24 hours in advance, but was announced earlier to proponents, violating the spirit of open meeting laws and undermining the integrity of the committee

Kansas NOW stands firmly opposed to House Bill 2324, and we encourage the committee to not report it favorably for passage.

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<sup>1</sup> People For the American Way, "GOP takes its war on women to the states." 2013.  
<http://www.pfaw.org/media-center/publications/gop-takes-its-war-women-states#heartbeat>