

Chairman Barker, Vice Chairman Averkamp, Ranking Member Ruiz, and Members of the House Federal and State Affairs Committee:

I ask that you vote no on HCR 5019. This amendment would further reduce reproductive rights in the state of Kansas and could pave the way for a complete ban on abortion. This is not in the public interest.

Reducing abortion access does not reduce the number of abortions, but it does make them less safe. If we want to reduce the number of abortions, we could implement other policies that do not take women's rights away. We can improve sex education, increase access to contraception, and lift the financial burden of giving birth.

We should aim to make Kansas where young people, like myself, can work and build a family. Our current economic and healthcare policies make having children is incredibly expensive, with little support from the government. Passing an unnecessarily restrictive amendment, like HCR 5019, will continue to drive young people out of Kansas.

Respectfully,

Samuel Peterson