

January 8, 2021

Dear Chairman Barker and Members of the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my testimony.

My name is Molly Price. I am a Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP), wife and mother of two small children. I currently work for an Infusion Center in Overland Park, Kansas. At the start of my career in nursing as a Registered Nurse (RN), I worked for several years on an acute, inpatient post-operative floor for a major healthcare system's hospital in Overland Park. Early on, I had the privilege of caring for primarily women of all ages and health conditions. Some of my most impactful moments as a caretaker were caring for end of life care patients who had been placed on comfort care and hospice measures, and for women after having still births and D&Cs from miscarriages, with their babies often being born near or at full-term gestation. I also have a heavy medical/ surgical nursing background where I am Board Certified in medical/surgical Nursing. I have experience in Labor and Delivery and Postpartum nursing, as well as I have spent time working at psychiatric counseling centers. I also have recent experience as an FNP working for Olathe Health Physician's Urgent Care's caring for Covid-19 patients. Additionally, I am an adjunct Professor to Bachelors of Nursing students on Labor and Delivery units and inpatient psychiatric units.

Before having my first baby, I worked as a volunteer RN for the Abortion Pill Reversal hotline team, which is based out of California. I was a part of many stories of women who were desperate to reverse their decision, often times only minutes after starting the abortion process. Our team would find clinics and doctors in their area (we received calls from all over the world) who would prescribe a reversal protocol of hormonal progesterone supplementation. I was blessed to witness several successful reversals and see photos of women's babies after birth 7-8 months later, of which statistically would not have been born if they had not used the reversal protocol. My time as an on-call RN had a significant impact on my life as a medical professional, as it opened my eyes to the panic, trauma and brutal devastation a woman feels after beginning the abortion process.

Throughout the calls I would receive, I was shocked to learn how often that the male partner, many times the husbands, had forcefully made the woman choose abortion. Women in Kansas and across the country need to feel empowered to keep their babies safe inside the womb, just as they do instinctually immediately after they've given birth. As a young mother of two very small children, I understand the gravity and responsibility that becoming a mother brings with it. Motherhood undoubtedly can be challenging, but seeing the value children bring to this earth is something you cannot fail to see. More than ever right now, our culture needs hope. Children bring hope of a brighter future.

In addition, children need to continue to require parental consent before any major medical procedure. Study after study shows that the brains of minors under the age of 18 are simply not well developed enough yet in decision making, especially about something that urgent and of that significance. As a society we do not allow minors to make consensual, adult decisions, so legally we should not allow them to make unilateral medical decisions. It is crucial that parents can continue to keep their rights to know what their children is doing. The deterioration of the family unit is a huge cause of mental illness among children and teenagers. If the state takes away parental rights of their own children, this will only further divide families and cause further gaps in families and in society. As a mother, I plea to continue to give parents decision making abilities and to not allow minors to agree to medical procedures that could cause great harm to their bodies and create lifelong physical, emotional and mental health issues.

I ask you to please vote for the Value Them Both Amendment. Thank you for your time. Our children- living children and unborn children's- futures depend on it.

Sincerely,

Molly Price APRN, FNP-C, MSN