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Governor Vetoes Abortion Restriction Bill

Planned Parenthood Commends the Governor's Support of Women's Health

Overland Park, KS – Today in Topeka, Governor Kathleen Sebelius vetoed House Substitute for Senate Bill 389 (Sub SB 389), which would have enacted for a variety of new restrictions to safe and legal abortion services. This bill was also intended to increase the number of legal actions that can be brought against abortion providers and their staff.

“We applaud Governor Sebelius’s veto of this unnecessary legislation,” stated Peter Brownlie, President and CEO of Planned Parenthood of Kansas & Mid-Missouri. “The Governor’s action today sends a clear message supporting the right of Kansas women to make private decisions about their reproductive health care without interference from the state.”

Proponents of this legislation claim that Sub SB 389 is about regulating so-called “late term” abortion and ending alleged coercion of women seeking an abortion. In fact, the vast majority of this bill would affect legal abortions provided in the first and second trimester of a woman’s pregnancy. Far from protecting women, this bill seeks to put up roadblocks between women and their choice of reproductive health care, which can ultimately cause harm by restricting legal options and invading their privacy.

“Kansans know that the only real way to reduce abortion is to prevent unintended pregnancies through practical and proven programs such as comprehensive sex education and access to birth control,” concluded Brownlie. “If Kansas lawmakers want to accurately represent their constituents, they will sustain the Governor’s veto of Sub SB 389 and enact common sense prevention policies.”

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Our Mission: To ensure that every individual has the knowledge, opportunity and freedom to make informed private decisions about reproductive and sexual health