

Legislative Testimony

Neutral Testimony to SB 67

Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

February 13th, 2025

Written Only

Chair Gossage and Members of the Committee:

My name is Rashane Hamby, and I serve as the Director of Policy and Research at the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Kansas. The ACLU of Kansas is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization with more than 35,000 supporters statewide, dedicated to preserving and strengthening the civil rights and liberties of every Kansan. I submit this neutral testimony in Senate Bill 67 (SB 67), however the ACLU of Kansas opposed the provision prohibiting CRNA's from proscribing abortion medication. CRNAs should have the ability to practice their profession to the best of their abilities, including the ability to prescribe abortion medication and perform procedures. Laws such as these, which restrict those able to provide abortion care are medically unfounded and are designed to restrict access to abortion care throughout the country.

Abortion Medication is safe and should be trusted in the hands of advanced practitioner providers such as CRNA's. In the United States, 23 states allow for APRNs can prescribe medication abortions (AP Toolkit, 2025). In 2019, a district court in Virginia struck down a similar "physicians-only" which have no medical basis and are designed to restrict abortion access by mandating that only physicians can provide abortion care, despite evidence that non-physician healthcare providers can safely and effectively provide such care (ACLU 2019). Montana provides another example of state courts striking down the prohibition of APRN's from providing abortions procedures and medication. Medical and public health authorities including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American Public Health Association and the World Health Organization have all concluded that laws prohibiting APRNs from providing early abortion services are medically unfounded (ACLU 2019). Provisions and laws such as SB 67 only restrict access for medically safe abortion resources for pregnant individuals and reduce constitutionally protected access to abortion in the state of Kansas.

For these reasons, this provision in SB 67 is unnecessary and harmful to overall abortion access in the state of Kansas. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,

Rashane Hamby
Director of Policy and Research

References

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