

April 2, 2025

State Government Finance and Policy Committee

RE: HF501 Equal Rights Amendment

Dear Co-Chairs Nash and Klevorn and committee members,

My name is Caryn Addante and I am writing in opposition to HF501.

There are many issues with this so-called Equal Rights Amendment.

First, a constitutional amendment must stand the test of time, and this one simply can't. It is deceptive and pushes the rights of some at the expense of others.

The amendment would give constitutional protection for a mother to kill her unborn baby for any reason, at any time in pregnancy up until birth, including, killing healthy babies carried by healthy moms. That's just appalling.

The proposed wording is complete deception. You have an obligation to ensure voters understand what they would be voting for. You at least need to include the word "abortion". The word "pregnancy" alone will deceive voters who won't realize it includes abortion up to birth for any reason.

Finally, the bill excludes equal rights based on age, religion, conscience, and creed. It doesn't make sense to leave so many people out. It actually makes it an UN-equal rights amendment.

I always thought when you share factual information you could change people's minds. But the false things being said about people like me such as we want women to die, or we want to deny pregnant mothers lifesaving medical care is awful and its wrong. Treating medical emergencies during pregnancy has always been available as it should be, including treating ectopic pregnancies and miscarriages

All we want is was for the truth to be believed and a society that loves, cherishes and protects every life including the unborn and their mothers.

We cannot have a constitutional amendment that hinges on deception and harmful ideology when it must stand the test of time.

While I grieve for the mothers, families and babies destroyed by abortion, I'm most sad for those who promote it. We will each stand in final judgement before God. And I hope I can tell Him, I did all I could to protect the beautiful lives he tried giving us. I hope you'll be able to do the same.

I'll continue praying that one day all hearts will be able to receive and know the truth.

Like other injustices in our country's history that dehumanized people, if this bill moves forward, history will not look back on it kindly. Please vote no.

Thank you

Caryn Addante