

Rep. Sharice Davids Remarks – 06.24.2024

Thank you for your important work, Dre. My name is Sharice Davids and I represent Kansas' Third District in Congress.

When *Roe v. Wade* was overturned, people were scared. They feared for the future of their rights and ability to make deeply personal decisions about their own bodies.

I've heard from many people who are concerned that their children and grandchildren might grow up with less rights than they did.

In August of 2022, Kansans of all backgrounds and political parties made their voices overwhelmingly clear: politics and politicians have no place in the middle of health care decisions. Those choices are between a person and their doctor, alone.

However, despite the resounding messages delivered in Kansas and other states, extremists persist in their relentless efforts to deprive Americans of their fundamental right to choose.

And sadly, that's where we find ourselves today.

Here in Kansas, certain state legislators continue to push extreme policies that put women in danger and make it harder for physicians to do their job.

In Washington, D.C., the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives supports a full abortion ban without exceptions for rape or incest.

And any day now, the Supreme Court could once again rip away reproductive health care, even if it means putting women at risk of serious illness or death.

Haven't we made our voices clear? We should be *expanding* access to reproductive health care. Not stripping folks of their personal freedoms.

But it appears we sometimes aren't being heard, so I want to be as clear as possible — and if you remember nothing else from today, remember this: a person's ability to decide what is best for their body, their family, and their future is inherently theirs, now and always.

I continue to support the *Women's Health Protection Act*, which would guarantee access to reproductive health care for *all* people in *all* corners of our country.

I call on Speaker Johnson to bring this crucial piece of legislation up for a vote. We've passed it before, and we must do it again.

I want to thank the team here at Planned Parenthood Great Plains for hosting me today and for their tireless efforts to provide high-quality health care, promote sexual health, and advocate for reproductive rights for all.

It's going to take many voices joining as one to push back against the extreme attacks on our right to choose.

And while it may seem like we've taken a few steps backward in recent years, I'm confident that if we stand together, we can gain back ground and keep Kansans safe.

Thank you for being here, and now I will open the floor for questions on access to reproductive health care. If you would like to ask questions on a separate topic, we can follow up.