

January 29, 2024 House Health & Human Services Committee Testimony in Support of HB180

Chairwoman Thomson and members of the House Health and Human Services Committee, I am Nickie McCarty, State Director for Concerned Women for America (CWA) of New Mexico. Today, I am testifying for Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee in support of HB180, the Pregnancy and Parenting Website and Hotline bill.

First, I would like to thank Representatives Jones and Terrazas for bringing forward this bill. HB180 is a commonsense bill providing mothers with information and links to social services, financial assistance, adoption services, pregnancy and parenting information, planning guidance, care centers, agencies, and other available public and private resources for expectant families and new parents.

Whether it's private adoption agencies, country services, or crisis pregnancy centers, expectant women need an easy way to know what resources are available. No mother should ever have to feel alone. A woman with an unexpected pregnancy may be in fear of whether she can get support during pregnancy and after the child is born. The development and promotion of the website and hotline will ensure that all public (state and local) and private resources are available on an easy-to-navigate website.

New Mexico can provide compassionate care and life-giving support to assist mothers and their babies by simply providing a web portal with links to those resources and many more.

I urge you to vote in favor of HB180.

Thank you.