

Micheala Miller

Proponent of House Bill 2111

On WebEx

To The Kansas House of Representatives, Committee on Taxation:

My name is Micheala Miller, and I am a resident of Kansas where I also operate a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that exists to help alleviate period poverty within our community through the collection and distribution of menstrual products to local schools, healthcare facilities, libraries, and other organizations that serve vulnerable populations within our community. The elimination of taxation on period products would be a step in the right direction towards improving accessibility to these essential healthcare items and reducing period poverty in Kansas.

The taxation of period products is discriminatory because it disproportionately affects people who menstruate, an unavoidable anatomical event that affects roughly half of the population. It is common for people who cannot afford period products every month to manage their period by re-using pads or rolled up socks, etc. which often leads to serious illness or infection. The results of these strategies also include an increase in depression and anxiety. Currently, about 1 in 5 students misses school due to a lack of accessibility to period products. This consistent absence is negatively impacting education in Kansas.

Period poverty is a public health issue. Please make our community healthier by making essential health and hygiene items more accessible.

Sincerely,

Micheala Miller, M.P.A.

Citizen of Kansas

*Founder, Chief Executive Officer, & Treasurer*

Strawberry Week Society