

Kosi Okuagu/ Notre Dame de Sion Student

Proponent of HB 2111

In Writing

I support this bill because it's unfair that a tax is placed on something that happens to about half of the world's population. Periods aren't something that should be taxed or deemed taxable. It's just something that happens to those who menstruate. Periods are as natural as the human necessity to eat. This leads me to my next part of this bill, proposing that the tax on food should be removed. Everyone needs food to survive. You can die from starvation. So why would you as a government want your people to die from starvation? Should people have to pay an extra amount on top of the food that they already need to pay for? Which by the way isn't too cheap in recent years. What's even more interesting is that in Kansas, is that for someone to remodel their kitchen at home is exempt from taxation. But if someone is menstruating, they may have to choose between picking up some groceries or sanitary products such as pads or tampons. If they have a child too, then that adds to the stress of who is being put first. I feel like it doesn't take a Nobel peace prize winner to point out how unjust that is. These are all basic human necessities! As a woman of the younger generation, this just makes me feel dejected. As a menstruator, the number of times I have been in need of a pad or tampon in public but have not been able to get access to one is far too many. This has prevented me from being able to continue the tasks I need to do and caused me to have to go home. For someone to have to continue working without the sanitary products they need because they can't afford it is something that should be considered a heinous crime considering how debilitating periods can be. I'm fortunate to have been always able to afford period products and food and such, however as a human being, I'm able to feel empathy for those who can't. That's why I'm here writing this letter in support of trying to look out for those who may be less fortunate than me. As a society, how can we function if people aren't able to access the necessary resources they need to function? We can't leave anyone behind. The amount of innovation society could have if we were just able to provide for everyone and ensure that people can function as they need to.