

LOUD LIGHT CIVIC ACTION

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Loud Light Civic Action
Written Proponent Testimony of SB 435
For the Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation

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Chair Tyson and members of the Committee,

Thank you so much for the opportunity to provide testimony today. My name is Melissa Stiehler, and I serve as Advocacy Director of Loud Light Civic Action, a Kansas based, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that supports and builds the civic engagement and leadership of young people in our state. Loud Light Civic Action stands strongly in support of SB 435, which eliminates the state sales tax on menstrual discharge collection devices (AKA the tampon tax).

Standardizing Current Tax Code Regarding Medically Necessary Products

This bill standardizes into law the reality that period products are medically necessary and would correct their tax status accordingly, making them exempt from the same taxes as other medically necessary products. The FDA, American Medical Association, American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology all regard these products as medically necessary- it's time our tax code reflects this too.

Bipartisan Tax Cut that Support Working Class Kansans

From Texas to California to Florida, state governments are doing away with sales tax on these products. Not only is it the right thing to do for our citizens' health, it's the right thing to do for their wallets. We know the cost of living is rising, and many members of the legislature rightfully concern themselves with trying to resolve this for Kansas families. Eliminating this tax is a common sense way to make sure working class families can afford necessities.

It's Time to End the Tampon Tax. **Period.**

Kansans are literally bleeding money every month because of the Kansas tax code, and it's really cramping our style. When Kansans have to buy period products, there should be no strings attached (by the state government anyway). Let's go with the flow and join the other 29 states that don't tax these products. Loud Light Civic Action strongly urges the members to vote SB 435 favorably out of this committee because it's about bloody time to end the tampon tax. If you do, you'll never have to hear another period pun from us again, which might be reason enough to vote for it. Thank you all for your time and I hope you take our testimony into consideration.