

Dear Chairman Smith, Vice-Chairman Mason, Ranking Minority Member Gardner, and members of the committee,

Thank you for hard work in representing all Kansans fairly and providing legislation that will eliminate sales tax on feminine hygiene products. Please consider eliminating sales tax on all hygiene products that can improve a person's dignity.

Our family regularly supports the nonprofit, Giving The Basics. This nonprofit provides hygiene products to schools, shelters and social workers across the city. We also have 2 High Schoolers in the house. Hygiene and appearance is a foundational element that improves mental health and confidence. I'm sure you are aware of the rise in mental health calls pulling our law enforcement from protecting the public. Addressing the cost of basic care supplies is actually a proactive approach to one of the most prominent issues at hand. I am reporting this information after completing Wichita's Citizen Police Academy and encourage you to seek out time with your law enforcement providers as well. The Police and Fire department receive the largest chunk of the City's budget, and I'm sure that is the case in most Kansas Cities.

Acting on this legislation now will have a lasting impact. Please be proactive in making Kansas a leader in improving the lives of all.

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