

## **Testimony on Senate Bill 435**

### **Address:**

03/05/2024

Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation  
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 548-S  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

**Dear Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation,**

### **Intro:**

My name is Daisy Karimi aka KD, and I am a resident of Topeka, Kansas. As a 32-year-old Black woman who has experienced the challenges of living with Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS), I am here to share my story and advocate for menstrual equity through support for Senate Bill 435.

### **Body:**

PCOS has deeply influenced my understanding of menstrual equity and the struggles associated with it. Dealing with irregular and often painful periods due to PCOS has been a constant battle. However, one particular day stands out vividly in my memory. It was a cold winter morning, and I realized I had run out of menstrual products. As I headed to the store, the financial burden weighed heavily on me. Being on a tight budget due to medical expenses related to PCOS, affording period products was a recurring challenge. This experience highlighted the stark reality faced by many women, especially those from marginalized communities like mine, who are forced to choose between menstrual products and other necessities.

While efforts have been made to address menstrual equity, such as initiatives to provide free products in schools and public spaces, more comprehensive action is needed. Senate Bill 435 presents an opportunity to alleviate the financial burden faced by individuals like me by providing a sales tax exemption for period products, diapers, and incontinence products. This exemption would not only ease the financial strain but also affirm the dignity and rights of individuals with menstrual health needs.

### **Make your ask:**

It is for these reasons why I urge you to vote yes on Senate Bill 435. By supporting this bill, you have the power to make a tangible difference in the lives of countless individuals who struggle with menstrual equity issues, particularly those living with conditions like PCOS.

### **Conclusion:**

In conclusion, I thank you for considering my testimony and for your dedication to addressing issues of equity and fairness in our state. By passing Senate Bill 435, you have the opportunity to prioritize the well-being and dignity of all Kansans, regardless of their menstrual health needs. Thank you for your time and attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,  
Daisy Karimi  
Topeka, KS