From: Micheala Miller Strawberry Week Society 12005 Norwood Road Leawood, KS 66209

To: Kansas House of Representatives Attn: Committee on Taxation c/o Representative Vic Miller

Date: February 3, 2022

Re: Written Testimony - House Bill 2461

To the Chair, Vice Chair, Ranking Member, and Members:

My name is Micheala Miller, and I am a resident of Kansas where I also operate a nonprofit organization, Strawberry Week Society, which exists to help alleviate period poverty with our community through the collection and distribution of menstrual products to local schools, libraries, and other nonprofit organizations. The elimination of taxation on period products (as well as other hygiene items) would be a step in the right direction towards improving accessibility to these essential items.

The taxation of period products is discriminatory because it disproportionally 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, rolled up socks, etc. which often leads to illness or infection. The results of these strategies also include increased depression and anxiety.

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. Founder & CEO of Strawberry Week Society