2/6/2022

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Dear Chairman Smith, Vice-Chairman Mason, Ranking Minority Member Gartner, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of HB 2461, which would eliminate sales tax on necessary health care items. Cleanliness is necessary for citizens to wholly function in our society. Many of these items fall under dignity care, which helps our citizens stay mentally healthy, as well. When we are asked to donate to organizations, feminine hygiene products, adult dignity products, deodorant, and diapers are top items requested.

According to this <u>study</u>, 1 in 5 teens struggled to afford period products or could not afford them at all. This leads to anxiety, social struggles, and diminished success in school. I believe that as a state, we should do anything in our power to make this less of a problem for some of our most vulnerable populations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Johnsonberg

Jennifer Thornberry