Subject: Support for H.R. 2116, THE CROWN ACT OF 2022

Maaskelah Thomas, Ph.D. 902 N. Grove Wichita, KS 67214 316-648-5984 December 31, 2023

Chairman, Senator Thompson Kansas Senate

Dear Mr. Chairman, Senator Thompson:

I am writing to express my strong support for "Crown Act" Senate Bill-36, and to urge you to champion its passage. This critical legislation addresses a pressing issue affecting countless individuals across our State and nation—discrimination based on natural hairstyles.

The CROWN Act seeks to end hair-based discrimination by ensuring that traits historically associated with race, such as hairstyles, are protected under federal law. It is disheartening that in the 21st century, individuals continue to face prejudice and bias due to their natural hair textures – the way our hair naturally grows out of our scalp - and the styles representative of our natural beauty and culture.

This legislation is not merely about personal grooming choices; it is about rectifying systemic inequalities and fostering an inclusive society. No one should be penalized or marginalized because of the way their hair naturally grows. By passing Senate Bill-36, we send a powerful message that diversity and individual expression are not only respected but celebrated.

Furthermore, this legislation aligns with the principles of equality enshrined in our Constitution. It promotes a more just and equitable society, fostering an environment where everyone, regardless of their racial or ethnic background, can thrive without fear of discrimination.

I urge you to consider the far-reaching impact that supporting Kansas Senate Bill-36 could have on fostering a more inclusive and tolerant society. As your constituent, I believe in the importance of championing legislation that promotes fairness and dismantles discriminatory practices.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I trust that you will stand on the right side of history by supporting Kansas Senate Bill-36.

Sincerely,

Maaskelah K. Thomas, Ph.D.