

The Honorable Matt Hall
Tax Policy Committee Chair
Anderson House Office Building
N-997 House Office Building
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Representative Hall:

We write to convey our support of HB 4270 and HB 5267, which would eliminate this sales tax burden and replace the School Aid fund money from other parts of the General Fund. This legislation provides important tax reform that recognizes the economic and educational importance of period products to people across the state of Michigan.

Passing this legislation and exempting menstrual products from sales taxes would produce three important economic benefits. First, the money saved from no longer paying these taxes would be reinvested in the economy as families spend their tax break on meeting other basic needs or investing in their future.

Second, research shows that [one in four women](#), as well as [one in four students](#) have struggled to purchase enough menstrual products. This lack of a basic necessity can force women to stay home from work or school, depressing their wages as well as micro-economic productivity. It can also force families to choose between the material products they need or food, putting their health in jeopardy. Additionally, research shows that students lacking access to menstrual products experience higher rates of absence and are less able to focus and engage in the classroom. Nearly [one in four students](#) missed class due to a lack of access to menstrual products, and [one in five reported](#) not being able to afford the products they needed. Repealing the tax on period products will enable more people to purchase the products they need to fully participate in society by attending work and school.

Third, people need menstrual products to stay healthy and avoid infection risks. Without the necessary products, people are unable to leave their homes or are forced to use rags, towels, or other less-sanitary options which can expose them to infection risks. Infections or other medical conditions resulting from a lack of these basic necessities are completely preventable. Removing the burden of the sales tax on these items will help prevent unnecessary medical costs. Led by a bipartisan group of Representatives, Congress and President Trump recognized the health benefits of sufficient menstrual supplies by including these products as items covered by Health Savings Accounts and Flexible Spending Accounts when they passed the CARES Act.

Repealing the tax on period products is critical, bipartisan tax reform for working families. Twenty-three states do not charge sales taxes on period products, including Louisiana and Ohio

which recently provided families with this important tax reform. We do not believe that we should tax people's basic needs. By implementing necessary tax reform, this important legislation will have great economic, education, and health impacts for all Michiganders.

For these reasons, we ask that you support passing HB 4270 and HB 5267 through your committee.

Respectfully,

Alliance for Period Supplies

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