

August 31, 2021

As a Michigan and a recent graduate of Central Michigan University, I am incredibly proud to support House Bills 5267 and 4270, as introduced by Representative Matt Hall. Menstruation is a natural part of life, and we should not be burdened by the system to pay taxes on necessities. My period is not the government's profit, and there is no reason states should be profiting an estimated \$120 million annually on menstruation.

Furthermore, since the start of the recent pandemic, many families have struggled to make ends meet. A tax on menstrual products only adds to the inevitable expenses of a menstruating individual. Period products are not luxury items, and these essential products should be made available for any menstruating individual, at a minimum, tax free.

Currently, there are 23 states without a tampon tax, Michigan is among the 27 states still taxing individuals for their periods. Passing HB 5267 will allow Michigan to be an influential force in the fight for menstrual and gender equity in the United States.

I urge all members of this committee to unanimously support these bills today.

I would like to thank the committee for taking the time to read my testimony.

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