



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 06, 2020

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LRB-2132/1: Lawmakers introduce legislation to end the taxation of diapers & menstrual products

MADISON –Representatives Melissa Sargent (D-Madison) and Scott Krug (R-Nekoosa), and Senators André Jacque (R-De Pere) and LaTonya Johnson (D-Milwaukee), released the following statement to announce the end of the co-sponsorship period for LRB-2132/1:

Under [current Wisconsin law](#), many goods deemed necessities are exempt from sales tax. Yet, many needed personal hygiene products are still taxed as “luxury goods”. LRB-2132/1 simply works to recognize certain products as the necessities that they are, by creating a sales and use tax exemption for the sale of diapers, undergarments for incontinence, tampons, and sanitary napkins.

“Wisconsin exempts basic necessities, like groceries, from sales tax. As a matter of fairness, we must recognize diapers and menstrual products that parents with infants, people with disabilities, older adults, and people who menstruate, use as needed products that should not be subject to sales tax,” said Senator LaTonya Johnson (D-Milwaukee).

Currently in the United States, nearly [1 in 3](#) families struggle to afford enough diapers, with disposable diapers costing upwards of [\\$80](#) per month per child. Meanwhile, studies have found that [2 out of 3 people](#) living below the poverty line have experienced being without menstrual products due to costly expenses.

“These products aren’t luxury goods, they are necessities for health and personal care and it’s time for our tax code to treat them that way,” said Senator André Jacque (R-De Pere).

In addition to cost inequities, this taxation can often have large impacts on low income individuals and their health. Lacking access to the ability to care for bodily functions due to prohibitive costs can have serious implications, from poor health outcomes and lost work and educational instruction hours to demoralization and embarrassment for those unable to afford essential hygiene products.

“No person should have to be without the products necessary to care for their health,” said Rep. Melissa Sargent (D-Madison). “It is unacceptable that many Wisconsinites currently go without these products, or struggle to access them due to financial burdens. Ending the tax on these items is an important step in ensuring equity in our tax code, and in advancing public health here in Wisconsin.”

So many individuals across Wisconsin use these necessary products to practice proper hygiene. Yet, these individuals— people who menstruate, families with infants, people with disabilities, the elderly, or those with a health condition, among others— continue to face taxation on these needed products.

“This is important. I'm a father, a husband, and a son. These products are essential needs for all of our families and government shouldn't be collecting sales taxes on basic personal items like these,” said Representative Scott Krug (R-Nekoosa).

Ending the tax on these products advances public health and socioeconomic equity in Wisconsin. LRB-2132/1 is a bipartisan effort to bring Wisconsin up to speed with a nationwide movement, and bring fairness to Wisconsin's tax code.

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