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March 20, 2025

The Honorable Representative Mike Hoadley
Chair, House Economic Competitiveness Committee
Anderson House Office Building
S-1288 House Office Building
Lansing, MI 48933

RE: Support for HB 4058 & HB 4059- Sales tax: exemptions for certain baby and toddler items

Chairman Hoadley,

On behalf of the Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA), the national trade association representing the leading manufacturers of over-the-counter (OTC) medicines, dietary supplements, and OTC medical devices, I'd like to express strong support for House Bills 4058 & 4059. These pieces of legislation seek to exempt some OTC medical devices, including diapers and breast pumps, from sales tax.

Medical necessities, like diapers and breast pumps, should be exempt from sales tax, just like other essential healthcare items. This change would make these products more affordable for all residents, particularly benefiting lower-income families who spend a disproportionate share of their budget on these basic needs. By removing sales tax on these healthcare essentials, the state can help ensure all citizens have access to the products they need for health and hygiene while reducing financial strain on families.

For diapers specifically, an elimination of this tax aligns with similar policies in other states like Texas and New York that recognize the significance of reducing financial barriers for state citizens.[1] By adopting this policy, Michigan can further demonstrate its commitment to the well-being of its residents.

We commend Representatives Smaltz and Boer for introducing HB 4058 & 4059 and respectfully urge the House Committee on Economic Competitiveness to support their passage. Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to contact me directly if I can provide additional information or perspective.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlos L. Gutiérrez

[1] https://nationaldiaperbanknetwork.org/diaper-tax/