



SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

"NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN"

March 17, 2023

To: Members of the Committee on Taxation

From: Patrick O'Malley, Ph. D, SHP KS-Benedictine College Chapter Co-President

Re: Testimony in support of HB 2203

Sleep in Heavenly Peace is a 501c-3 non-profit organization whose volunteers work to build and deliver handmade beds to children sleeping on the floor or in other uncomfortable situations.

One of the great aspects of our work with Sleep in Heavenly Peace is getting the community involved in solving the problem of child bedlessness. As an example, we started the Benedictine College chapter in 2018 and immediately, the impact was being felt in the City of Atchison which has a population of around 10,000. The teachers at the elementary school, recognizing how the beds we delivered to their students were making a difference, organized a volunteer day in September 2019 where all the teachers came to build beds with us. It was an amazing event. Since our launch, we've delivered beds to over 300 children just in Atchison.

To the speak to the bill, why should SHP be granted tax exempt status? We all know how important a good night's sleep is. Children who are sleeping on the floor are not going to be able to perform as well in school. According to the data on the Kansas Policy Institute website¹, the amount spent per student per year in Kansas on instruction alone is \$8,348. Split over the school year, this is approximately \$45 per day. With a child who doesn't have a bed, that investment is simply going to be less effective. The tax exemption proposed in this bill will help the children we serve perform better in school and thereby enhance the investment the state is already making in these children's education. For 2022, the SHP chapters in Kansas paid \$2,515 in sales tax. In passing this exemption, the minor loss of revenue will be more than offset by improving the lives and education of the children served by SHP. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Patrick O'Malley, Ph. D.

KS-Benedictine College Chapter Co-President

Sleep in Heavenly Peace

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¹ <https://kansaspolicy.org/school-budgets-average-16686-per-pupil-this-year/>



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SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

"NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!"

<http://inktr.ee/SHPBenedictineCollege>

OUR MISSION



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OUR MISSION

Getting Children Off the Floor!

We believe that "No kids sleeps on the floor in our town", but we want to make OUR town EVERYONE'S town.

Bring Communities Together!

It takes the community to get involved and help their own. SHP provides the opportunity for Volunteers to do just that.



SHP COMES TO KANSAS - Idaho training April 2018



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SHP COMES TO KANSAS - First build 5/9/2018



SHP COMES TO KANSAS - First build 5/9/2018



SHP COMES TO KANSAS - First Delivery 7/29/2018



ATCHISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS BUILD DAY



HOW THE TAX EXEMPTION WILL HELP

- Kansas spends an average of \$45 per child per school day on instruction.
- The exemption will help us serve more kids and make that investment more effective



SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE |

BED DELIVERIES



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VOLUNTEERS

Getting the Community Involved

- No Experience Required
- Scalable Size Groups
- Team Build Exercise
- Bring Community Together



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BED DELIVERIES



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BED DELIVERIES



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BED DELIVERIES



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