



Lea Gerard
Committee Assistant
Kansas House Committee on Taxation
Lea.gerard@house.ks.gov

March 2, 2022

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Mason, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment in support of removing the food sales tax on behalf of The National Service Office for Nurse-Family Partnership™ (NFP). Over the last decade, NFP has partnered with Kansas to provide a public health nursing intervention designed to improve outcomes for first-time, low-income pregnant women and their children.

Nurse-Family Partnership is a community health program that pairs registered nurses with low-income, first-time mothers to provide home visits during pregnancy and through the first two years of the child's life. Specially trained NFP nurses provide home visits to help moms set goals to improve their health, their children's health, and their families' economic self-sufficiency.

During the home visits, nurses assess the health of the mother and child, screen for issues including substance use and domestic violence, and monitor the child's developmental milestones. Nurses also refer mothers to education and employment resources and other healthcare providers and social services agencies, as needed.

Two important components of the Nurse-Family Partnership intervention are ensuring mothers have the education they need to make healthy food choices during pregnancy and beyond, and helping them become economically self-sufficient to reduce or end the need for reliance on other assistance programs. Removal of the food sales tax for our low-income moms and babies would help these families be able to more easily afford to put food on the table.

We know that there are many pieces of legislation under consideration to end the state food tax, and we support any effort to bring affordability of food to our families, especially during this current time of deep inflation and COVID-related unemployment.

Nurse-Family Partnership empowers vulnerable first-time moms to transform their lives and create better futures for themselves and their babies. Research consistently proves that Nurse-Family Partnership succeeds at its most important goals: keeping children healthy and safe and improving the lives of moms and babies. Thank you for partnering with us in this effort.

Sincerely,

Brittany Dawn McAllister, MPH
Government Affairs Manager

brittany.mcallister@nursefamilypartnership.org

(737) 210-1053