

State of Kansas

Senate Chamber



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TOM HOLLAND
STATE SENATOR, 3RD DISTRICT
DOUGLAS AND LEAVENWORTH COUNTIES

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March 19, 2018

Madam Chair and Committee Members:

Good morning! My name is Tom Holland and I am the State Senator for the Kansas Senate 3rd District serving portions of Douglas and Leavenworth counties. I am here today to ask for your support of SB 444.

Kansas is one of only fourteen states that has a sales tax on food for home preparation and one of only seven states that taxes them at the full sales tax rate; even more concerning is the fact that Kansas has the highest state sales tax on food in the Midwest and is second overall in the entire United States (Federation of Tax Administrators, 2015). SB 444 would gradually reduce the current state sales tax rate on food and food items at 6.5 % down to 2% starting July 1st, 2019. A similar piece of legislation, SCR 1604, was earlier introduced and co-sponsored by both Republican and Democratic senators.

Our constituents are demanding relief from Kansas' burdensome sales tax rates when it comes to putting food on the table for their families, and our state line grocers need a more level playing field! This bill would give them a voice to weigh in on such critical tax policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Holland'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'T' and 'H'.

Tom Holland
State Senator – 3rd District