

Jamie Plume

From: SLegislation
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2026 9:22 AM
To: Senate Finance
Subject: FW: S-2444

-----Original Message-----

From: Eileen Lader <eileen@mlader.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2026 3:52 PM
To: SLegislation <slegislation@rilegislature.gov>
Subject: S-2444

>> This letter is written in support of Bill S-2444 seeking to repeal the RI sales tax on wigs needed by people who are experiencing alopecia from medical conditions, including but not limited to cancer. In 2018, as I began to experience hair loss as a result of chemotherapy, I purchased a wig at a local business in Warwick. This was a difficult experience, to say the least, but I was totally dismayed when the clerk added on RI sales tax. Having been an oncology social worker in CT for 25 years, I was aware that in both CT and in MA, there is no sales tax on wigs written as a prescription. In a state where fine arts, crafts, wine and spirits purchased at retail liquor stores, medical masks and boats are not taxed, this was the ultimate indignity and show of a lack of empathy for those facing a difficult medical issue. I have been behind this issue for eight years. I believe the time has come to correct this in order to support RI businesses as well as patients with medical alopecia.

>> Respectfully,
>> Eileen Lader
>> Charlestown, RI