

BABIES COME WITH LOTS OF NEEDS. LET'S HELP PARENTS OUT...

## EXPAND STATE SALES TAX EXEMPTION FOR BABY NECESSITIES

SUPPORT H.F. 2125 (ENGEN) / S.F. 2182 (COLEMAN)

IN THE FIRST YEAR OF A BABY'S LIFE, THE AVERAGE FAMILY WILL SPEND:

- \$400 on wipes
  - + **\$27.50 in state sales tax**
- \$200 on a car seat
  - + **\$13.75 in state sales tax**
- \$70 on a car seat base
  - + **\$4.81 in state sales tax**
- \$200 bassinet
  - + **\$13.75 in state sales tax**
- \$50 bassinet mattress
  - + **\$3.43 in state sales tax**
- \$15 bassinet sheets
  - + **\$1.03 in state sales tax**
- \$200 on a crib
  - + **\$13.75 in state sales tax**
- \$60 crib mattress
  - + **\$4.12 in state sales tax**
- \$25 crib sheets
  - + **\$1.71 in state sales tax**
- \$200 stroller
  - + **\$13.75 in state sales tax**
- \$150 changing table
  - + **\$10.31 in state sales tax**
- \$50 changing pads
  - + **\$3.43 in state sales tax**
- \$150 baby swing
  - + **\$10.31 in state sales tax**
- \$50 bottle sterilizing bags
  - + **\$3.43 in state sales tax**
- \$20 infant eating utensils
  - + **\$1.37 in state sales tax**



H.F. 2125 (Engen) / S.F. 2182 (Coleman) is a bipartisan bill that would expand the state sales tax exemption for certain baby products. Current state sales tax exemptions are provided for breast pumps, baby bottles and nipples, pacifiers, teething rings, and infant syringes.

H.F. 2125 / S.F. 2182 would extend the exemption to include: baby wipes, cribs, bassinets, crib and bassinet mattresses, crib and bassinet sheets, changing tables, changing pads, strollers, car seats and car seat bases, baby swings, bottle sterilizers, and infant eating utensils.

These are essential items to purchase when preparing to welcome a newborn baby. Let's take a step to support mothers and families!

**TOTAL: \$1,966.45**

**SAVINGS BY ELIMINATING STATE SALES TAX ON THESE ITEMS: \$126.45**



# Let's make Minnesota the best place to raise kids by lowering costs of necessities.

Families are facing skyrocketing costs on necessities of living, and no one is facing these high expenses more than families with infants.

First-time parents face the largest upfront costs of these big ticket items. You can see how quickly a typical shopping list (flip over this sheet) of these items can easily add up to nearly \$2,000. By eliminating state sales tax, parents will save nearly \$130.

Expanding the sales tax exemption to baby necessities such as wipes, car seats, and cribs will help keep more money in the pockets of parents to help cover the many unexpected costs of childrearing. Eliminating this tax is particularly vital for lower-income families who are often living paycheck-to-paycheck. A small tax cut for the state could make a life-saving difference when a family can now afford a new safe crib and car seat rather than getting those items already used in a neighborhood swap.

The state's \$17.6 billion surplus in 2023 demonstrates that we can afford to support growing families, especially low-income families who will benefit the most from adding these items to the exemption list. Minnesota cannot afford to lose young families who will support and sustain our well-documented aging population.<sup>1,2</sup>

This bill has bipartisan support in the legislature – everyone can get behind supporting families. Let's help parents of infants by easing the cost of necessary items.

1. Erdahl, A. K. (2022, December 24). Minnesota population growth is flat for a second year; here's why that matters. kare11.com. Retrieved February 20, 2023, from <https://www.kare11.com/article/news/local/minnesota-population-growth-flat-for-a-second-year-heres-why-that-matters/89-d8200743-e563-48dd-a280-81b513ba1d85>

2. MDH. (2023, January 30). Data by topic: Aging. MN State Demographic Center. Retrieved February 20, 2023, from <https://mn.gov/admin/demography/data-by-topic/aging/>



Rebecca Delahunt  
Acting Director of Public Policy  
Minnesota Family Council  
[rebecca@mfc.org](mailto:rebecca@mfc.org)

#### Questions? Contact:

Maggee Hangge  
Public Policy Associate  
Minnesota Catholic Conference  
[mhangge@mncatholic.org](mailto:mhangge@mncatholic.org) / 651-227-8777

Cathy Blaeser  
Co-Executive Director  
Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life  
[www.mccl.org](http://www.mccl.org) / 612-825-6831