



March 2, 2018

To: Representative Steve Johnson, House Taxation Committee and Members of the Committee

Subject: In Support of HB2593

Dear Rep. Johnson,

For the last two years, I have had the honor to work on multiple remodeling projects for Friends of JCDS, Inc. I have seen first-hand the impact of work done by the organization to provide affordable and accessible housing in Johnson County for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Having helped complete projects, I have seen the time and energy Friends spends on ensuring that they make well researched decisions and include professionals, family members and the individuals supported. They work closely with all trade members and help us to understand the importance of the work we complete.

To be honest, we always thought their projects were tax exempt, and were a little confused when we found out they were not.

We do know that Friends uses local companies, and take the time to make sure that work is done right. They research best practices, research different types of material and work with many local tradesman, such as Spartan/Ram Jack Foundation, Polar Aire, Eaton Roofing, Wheatland Contracting and us, Meyer Remodeling & Repair.

Again, having worked with Friends for this length of time, it's clear that a tax exemption is not about a cost savings for the organizations, but more importantly about them finding more ways to complete more projects that better serve individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Friends of JCDS, Inc. has worked tirelessly to raise funds and awareness, for a population that is often not on people's radar. Funds that would be saved in taxes would be spent on ceiling lifts to help people transfer in their homes, or additional ramps to help people better access their homes, or simply more improvements to homes to help people live successfully in their communities.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ryan Meyer

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