



Delegate Anne R. Kaiser, Chair
Delegate Alonzo T. Washington, Vice Chair
Ways and Means Committee
House Office Building, Room 131
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: House Bill 208 – Public Schools – Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products

SUPPORT

Dear Chair Kaiser, Vice-Chair Washington, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

We are writing on behalf of the Maryland School Psychologists' Association (MSPA), a professional organization representing about 500 school psychologists across the state. We advocate for the social-emotional, behavioral, and academic well-being of students and families across Maryland.

The purpose of this letter is to provide our support for House Bill 208 – Public Schools – Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products. This bill requires each public school to provide free menstrual hygiene products to students.

Statistics suggest that nearly one in five American girls have left school early or missed school entirely due to an inability to access menstrual products. Girls also miss instructional time in the classroom when they forget or are unable to bring these products from home and resort to asking the school staff or a friend. Menstrual products are often viewed as luxuries rather than necessities to participate fully in school, and as a result, this missed instructional time makes being successful in school, that much more difficult.

MSPA supports House Bill 208 – Public Schools – Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products, and we respectfully urge a favorable vote. If we can provide any additional information, or be of any assistance, please feel to contact us at legislative@mSPAonline.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Potter, Ph.D., NCSP
Chair, Legislative Committee
Maryland School Psychologists' Association
Association

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