



Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor
Josh Kurtz, Secretary
David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary

March 4, 2026

BILL NUMBER: HOUSE BILL 941 - FIRST READER

SHORT TITLE: PUBLIC HEALTH - PUBLIC BUILDINGS - HYGIENE PRODUCTS

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: LETTER OF INFORMATION

EXPLANATION OF DEPARTMENT'S POSITION

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) owns and operates over 525 public restroom facilities across the state. This includes restroom facilities designated for male, female, gender neutral, and family use. While the majority of the Department's restroom facilities currently provide most of the public amenities called for in this bill, the legislation would still have a significant fiscal impact on DNR operations.

Presently, the Department's facilities do not offer menstrual products in restrooms; therefore, compliance will require the procurement of both supplies and dispensing hardware. Initial research into pricing through Blind Industries, a state preferred provider, indicates that each dispenser will cost approximately \$602 and refill cartons are approximately \$74 per box. These dispensers would need to be installed and stocked in every public restroom owned and managed by DNR. To meet this requirement, the Department's estimated expenditure for Fiscal Year 2027 would be approximately \$393,750, with a recurring expenditure estimated at approximately \$79,506 annually. These figures assume product access in every restroom regardless of gender assignment but do not account for labor costs associated with installation, restocking, or repairs.

The bill also requires water to be provided in each restroom. Currently, the Department has several compostable toilet systems or pit toilets in locations across the state. To comply with the water requirement, the Department may be required to either retrofit these remote locations with water access or decommission the facilities for public use. If facilities are shut down, it would cause other sanitary and safety issues, as alternative non-hygienic locations (ie. outdoors) may be used in lieu of designated facilities.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Clean restrooms and hygiene products are important services the Department offers to the public. The Department will continue efforts to meet public expectations of facilities, and work to update provisions as facilities and requirements change over time.

BILL EXPLANATION

HB 941 requires all public restrooms within public buildings, which include public areas for gathering or amusement, including public parks, to provide an adequate supply of hand soap, toilet paper, hand drying devices, water, waste containers, and menstrual hygiene products.

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