

DEL. DANA JONES, DISTRICT 30A
President

DEL. MICHELE GUYTON, DISTRICT 42B
1st Vice-President

DEL. JENNIFER WHITE HOLLAND, DISTRICT 10
2nd Vice-President

DEL. SARAH WOLEK, DISTRICT 16
Secretary



DEL. LINDA FOLEY, DISTRICT 15
Treasurer

DEL. KAREN R. TOLES, DISTRICT 25
Parliamentarian

DEL. JACQUELINE T. ADDISON, DISTRICT 45
At Large

DEL. KYM TAYLOR, DISTRICT 23
At Large

WOMEN LEGISLATORS OF MARYLAND
THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2/18/2026

To: Delegate Melissa Wells, Chair

Delegate Kenneth Kerr, Vice Chair

Government, Labor and Elections Committee

The Maryland Women's Caucus is proud to express its support for **HB 941 – Public Health – Public Buildings Hygiene Products**.

HB 941 requires that public restrooms be equipped with essential menstrual hygiene products, recognizing that these items are fundamental to health, dignity, and equity. Menstrual products are not optional or discretionary; they are basic necessities, just like soap and toilet paper, and should be treated as such in public facilities.

Women who lack access to menstrual products often experience embarrassment, stress, and health risks. Many are forced to rely on unsafe alternatives, such as toilet paper, which can increase the risk of infection and other health complications. This issue, commonly referred to as “period poverty,” disproportionately impacts low-income women and those experiencing financial instability.

The absence of menstrual products in public restrooms creates unnecessary barriers in daily life. Women report missing work, school, and other essential responsibilities due to a lack of access to these products. While soap and toilet paper are routinely provided in public restrooms at no cost, menstrual products—equally essential for hygiene and dignity—are often excluded.

Women's healthcare needs have historically been overlooked or minimized, and menstrual health has too often been treated as an afterthought rather than a public health priority. Menstruation is a recurring biological process that affects women monthly for a significant portion of their lives, making consistent access to menstrual products a matter of basic health and fairness.

Providing menstrual products in public restrooms promotes gender equity, supports public health, and affirms the dignity of women across Maryland. This legislation aligns squarely with the Maryland Women's Caucus's mission to support women, children, and families throughout the state.

For these reasons, the Maryland Women's Caucus respectfully urges a **favorable report** on HB 941.