SENATE BILL 427

By: Senators Elfreth and West
Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2021
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Public Schools – Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products – Requirement

FOR the purpose of requiring each county board of education to ensure that each public school provide, at no charge to students, menstrual hygiene products via dispensers in the restrooms at the school; requiring a public middle or high school to install menstrual hygiene product dispensers in certain restrooms by certain dates; requiring a public elementary school to install menstrual hygiene product dispensers in at least one restroom by a certain date; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the provision of menstrual hygiene products in public schools.

BY adding to Article – Education Section 7–447 Annotated Code of Maryland (2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Education

7–447.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “MENSTRUAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS” MEANS SIZE–APPROPRIATE TAMpons OR SANITARY NAPKINS FOR USE IN CONNECTION WITH THE MENSTRUAL CYCLE.

(B) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL ENSURE THAT EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL PROVIDE, AT NO CHARGE TO STUDENTS, MENSTRUAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS VIA DISPENSERS IN THE RESTROOMS AT THE

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
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1 SCHOOL.

2 (C) (1) A PUBLIC MIDDLE OR HIGH SCHOOL SHALL INSTALL MENSTRUAL
3 HYGIENE PRODUCT DISPENSERS IN:

4 (I) AT LEAST TWO RESTROOMS ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1,
5 2021; AND

6 (II) ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2025:

7 1. IF THE RESTROOMS ARE DIVIDED BY GENDER:

8 A. AT LEAST ONE MEN’S RESTROOM; AND

9 B. ALL WOMEN’S RESTROOMS; OR

10 2. IF THE RESTROOMS ARE NOT DIVIDED BY GENDER,
11 ALL RESTROOMS.

12 (2) A PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SHALL INSTALL MENSTRUAL
13 HYGIENE PRODUCT DISPENSERS IN AT LEAST ONE RESTROOM ON OR BEFORE
14 OCTOBER 1, 2021.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
16 1, 2021.