

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 891 (Delegate Conaway)
Government, Labor, and Elections

Correctional Services - Incarcerated Individuals - Menstrual Hygiene

This bill requires the Patuxent Institution and each State and local correctional facility to maintain records on instances of items damaged or destroyed due to visible leakage of menstrual discharge from incarcerated individuals. In addition, the bill prohibits the Patuxent Institution and each State and local correctional facility from subjecting female incarcerated individuals to disciplinary measures for items damaged or destroyed without malicious intent due to visible leakage of menstrual discharge.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially affect State finances or operations.

Local Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially affect local government finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapters 254 and 255 of 2018 require the managing official of a correctional facility and the director of the Patuxent Institution to ensure that the facility has a sufficient supply of menstrual hygiene products available to meet the needs of the incarcerated individual population at all times. Each correctional facility and the Patuxent Institution must (1) have a written policy and procedure in place requiring menstrual hygiene products to be provided at no cost to a female incarcerated individual on admission to the facility, on a routine basis, and on request and (2) maintain records on the provision and availability of menstrual hygiene products to incarcerated individuals.

The Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards must (1) establish standards regarding the proper disposal of menstrual hygiene products and (2) review the policy and records of each correctional facility and the Patuxent Institution relating to menstrual hygiene products during regular inspections.

These provisions apply to local correctional facilities, the Patuxent Institution, and correctional facilities in the Division of Correction.

“Menstrual hygiene products” includes tampons and sanitary napkins for use in connection with the menstrual cycle.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Cecil, Frederick, and Somerset counties; Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 13, 2026
jg/lgc

Analysis by: Shirleen M. E. Pilgrim

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510