



Bill: Senate Bill 427

Title: Public Schools – Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products

Committee: Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

Date: February 11, 2021

Position: Support

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives supports *SB 427 – Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products*. The bill requires public schools to provide hygiene products at no cost to students in all of their restrooms.

We support this legislation because it:

- Ensures all students have access to menstrual hygiene products. This is particularly important for students whose families have low incomes and no means to purchase these products;
- Reduces the amount of time that students miss school because they do not have access to menstrual hygiene products;
- Protects students' health by giving them the products they need to stay clean and healthy; and
- Destigmatizes menstrual hygiene products. These products are now generally only available in the school nurse's office. Menstruation is not an illness. Students should not have to see a health care provider to obtain menstrual hygiene products.

We urge a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please let us know by contacting Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.