



Delegate Anne R. Kaiser, Chair
Delegate Alonzo T. Washington, Vice Chair
Ways and Means Committee
House Office Building, Room 131
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 22, 2021

Bill: Senate Bill 427 – Public Schools-Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products-Requirement

Position: Support

Dear Chairman Kaiser, Vice Chair Washington, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Maryland School Psychologists' Association (MSPA), a professional organization representing about 500 school psychologists in Maryland. We advocate for the social-emotional, behavioral, and academic wellbeing of students and families across the state.

We are in support of Senate Bill 427, which would require public schools to provide free menstrual hygiene products to students. Statistics indicate that nearly one-in-five American girls have left school early or missed school entirely due to an inability to access menstrual products. Girls also miss instructional time in the classroom when they forget or are unable to bring these products from home and resort to asking the school staff or a friend. Menstrual products are often viewed as luxuries rather than necessities to participate fully in school, and as a result, this missed instructional time makes being successful in school that much more difficult.

MSPA is in strong support of this bill and we urge a favorable report on SB 427. If we can provide any additional information or be of any assistance, please contact us at legislative@mSPAonline.org, or Rachael Faulkner at rfaulkner@policypartners.net or (410) 693-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Potter, Ph.D., NCSP
Chair, Legislative Committee
Maryland School Psychologists' Association