



Bill: Senate Bill 427

Title: Public Schools – Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products

Committee: House Ways and Means Committee

Date: March 24, 2021

Position: Favorable

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 to students in grades 6-12 at no cost 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.

We urge a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please let us know by contacting Suhani Chitalia at schitalia@policypartners.net or (240) 506-9325.