



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

Bill: House Bill 205 – 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 House Bill 205, 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 House Bill 205 and we respectfully urge a favorable vote. If we can provide any additional information or be of any assistance, please feel free to contact us at legislative@mSPAonline.org.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyle Potter".

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