

House Appropriations Committee

February 24, 2026

HB 457 – Institutions of Higher Education - Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products - Requirement

Position: Favorable with Amendments

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), representing Maryland’s 16 community colleges, supports **HB 457** with amendments. MACC appreciates the sponsor’s leadership and shares the goal of ensuring students have reliable access to essential health and hygiene resources while on campus. Maryland’s community colleges are deeply committed to student well-being and recognize that access to menstrual hygiene products can remove barriers that may otherwise interfere with a student’s ability to fully participate in their education.

MACC has had the opportunity to speak with the sponsor and appreciates the thoughtful, collaborative conversation about implementing this proposal. While we fully support the intent of expanding access to menstrual hygiene products for students, community colleges have concerns regarding the fiscal and administrative impact of requiring products to be stocked in all restrooms across campus facilities. Many community colleges operate across multiple campuses, buildings, and aging facilities, and a universal requirement across every restroom would create significant ongoing costs and operational burdens for institutions already managing constrained budgets and limited facilities staff. This concern is strictly related to implementation and cost, not to the underlying policy goal, which we strongly support.

To ensure the policy remains workable and sustainable while still achieving its intended purpose, MACC respectfully requests an amendment to provide institutions with flexibility in implementation. Specifically, MACC requests that institutions of higher education be permitted to provide menstrual hygiene products in all women’s restrooms or in a designated number of restrooms across campus, rather than requiring stocking in every restroom facility. This approach would ensure that students have consistent and reliable access to needed products while allowing institutions to implement the policy in a fiscally responsible and administratively feasible manner. Maryland’s community colleges remain committed to working with the sponsor and the General Assembly to support student success and well-being. With reasonable flexibility for implementation, MACC respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS** report on **HB 457**.

Please contact Brad Phillips (bphillips@mdacc.org) or Drew Jabin (djabin@mdacc.org) with questions.