

Good afternoon chairman Feldman, chairwoman Kagan, and distinguished members of the committee.

My name is Veda Puvvala and I am a junior from Crofton High School. While this testimony is from a personal perspective, I also currently serve as the CRASC – Chesapeake Region Association of Student Councils – Legislative Liaison.

With that in mind, I am here today to urge your support for SB0307. A bill that ensures all county boards of education in Maryland will ensure each public school regularly restocks dispensers in the women’s restrooms with menstrual hygiene products.

Personally as a female student in Crofton High School I have the privilege of not commonly seeing empty menstrual hygiene product dispensers.

However this is not the case for many students across Maryland. The Alliance for Period Supplies states that 1 in 4 teens in the U.S. miss class because they lack access to period supplies.

I have also personally heard many experiences from students in Montgomery County who have seen empty dispensers in their schools. After all, no student wants to be running around during class time searching for a menstrual hygiene product.

This bill simply reaffirms that the menstrual products that are already required to be in women’s restrooms are restocked and available regularly.

Simply put, SB0307 recognizes the value of accessible menstrual hygiene products in Maryland schools by ensuring regular restocking of dispensers.

With that said, I strongly urge a favorable report for SB0307.