

**Testimony Supporting HB0457**

**Institutions of Higher Education - Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products - Requirement**

**FAVORABLE**

March 23, 2026

The Honorable Chair Senator Brian J. Feldman; Vice Chair Senator Cheryl C. Kagan; and esteemed members of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

I am writing to ask you to vote favorably on Senate Bill 457. This bill would require institutions of higher education to provide menstrual hygiene products, free of charge, in all restrooms by August 1, 2028.

This expansion of the requirement to provide menstrual hygiene products would help ensure these medical necessities are available to all who need them, regardless of socioeconomic status. Students may struggle with affordability of many things while they attend college, and this service would provide support for their physical health as well as their dignity during a normal bodily function.

Importantly, the bill would also make menstrual hygiene products accessible in *all restrooms*, regardless of gender designation. As an ally of transgender and nonbinary individuals, I recognize that **users of restrooms designated for use by males may have need of these products and should not be prevented from accessing them**. This would be a step toward inclusion, understanding, and health equity for LGBTQ+ individuals on college campuses.

For these reasons, I urge a favorable vote for HB0457.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melinda Littell  
Arnold, D33C