



March 23, 2026

To: The Members of the Senate Education Energy and Environment Committee

CC: Delegate Jessica Feldmark

From: The Members of the Anne Arundel County Commission for Women

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

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and members of the Senate Education, Energy and Environment Committee:

The Anne Arundel County Commission for Women is urging to you to please support HB 457 – Institutions of Higher Education Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Product (Del. Feldmark). This bill requires each institution of higher education to provide, free of charge, menstrual hygiene products in all restrooms by August 1, 2028. Current Law: Chapters 705 and 706 of 2021 require each local board of education to ensure that each public school provide, at no charge to the students, menstrual hygiene products via dispensers in the women’s restrooms at the school. A public middle or high school must install menstrual hygiene product dispensers in all women’s restrooms. A public elementary school must install menstrual hygiene product dispensers in at least one restroom.

This bill is extremely important, as girls and women will spend and do spend thousands of dollars on menstrual products throughout their lifetime. If a girl starts menstruating at age 10 or 11, they will menstruate for at least another 40-45 years. Costs are continually rising, and approximately 100,000 college students in Maryland are receiving financial aid. This bill, should it pass, would alleviate the financial burden for females as they would know that menstrual products are accessible on their campus and they would not need to worry about their personal finances as to whether or not they could afford to purchase menstrual products every month during their years of attending college and/or graduate school.

The Anne Arundel County Commission for Women supports women and girls and works to ensure women and girls thrive and succeed. We ask you to please give this bill a favorable report and vote in support of HB 457 to advance it in the legislative process. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The Members of the Anne Arundel County Commission for Women Legislative Committee:
Sari Wisch, Vice Chair of the AA Co Commission for Women
Aisha Hilliard, Co-Chair of the Legislative Committee
CaSandra Jones, Co-Chair of the Legislative Committee

Michele Pickens
Meghan Honesto

The Anne Arundel County Commission for Women was created in 1975 to serve as a resource and advocacy group for women of the County and to advise the County Executive on issues of significance to women. The Commissioners, comprised of women with different backgrounds and occupations, represent various areas of the County. The County Executive appoints Commissioners who are dedicated to improving the quality of life for the women of our County.