

Committee: Government, Labor, and Elections

Bill Number: House Bill 891 - Correctional Services - Incarcerated Individuals - Menstrual Hygiene

Hearing Date: February 19, 2026

Position: Favorable

Planned Parenthood of Maryland (PPM) supports *House Bill 891 - Correctional Services - Incarcerated Individuals - Menstrual Hygiene*. The bill establishes the necessary protections for incarcerated individuals who menstruate – specifically preventing those individuals from punishment from accidental damage to items damaged due to menstrual discharge. The bill would also require correctional institutional facilities to keep records of items damaged by menstruation.

Although Maryland passed legislation to provide incarcerated women with free feminine hygiene products beginning in 2018, the implementation has not been universal or successful. As reported by [The Washington Post](#), many women are still forced to pay for these products. Besides being a humiliating and demeaning process, when individuals do not have the products they need, they may damage property, leading to further disciplinary measures.

As an organization dedicated to positive health outcomes for all our patients and community, Planned Parenthood of Maryland supports this legislation as it promotes the advancement of human dignity and health equity. Our state will only become stronger when we prioritize the health and wellbeing of our most vulnerable residents.

We ask for a favorable report on HB 891. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Vice President of Public Affairs, Erin Bradley, erin.bradley@ppm.care.