

PAM LANMAN GUZZONE
Legislative District 13
Howard County

Health Committee

Subcommittees

Chair, Health Facilities

Insurance

Pharmaceuticals



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 216
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3083
800-492-7122 Ext. 3083
Pam.Guzzone@house.maryland.gov

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony in Support of HB 541: Public Schools - Restocking Menstrual Hygiene Products – Requirement

Ways and Means Committee

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Good afternoon, Chair Wilkins, Vice Chair Feldmark, and members of the Ways and Means Committee. I'm Delegate Pam Guzzone, representing Howard County's District 13, and I am here in support of House Bill 541, which would require that public schools regularly restock menstrual hygiene product dispensers in the restrooms where they are currently installed.

Access to menstrual hygiene products in our schools is not a luxury; it is a basic necessity that directly impacts students' ability to learn. When these products are unavailable, students can miss valuable instructional time, experience unnecessary stress, and face avoidable barriers to full participation in the school day. Ensuring consistent access is essential to supporting student health, dignity, and academic success. In fact, the impetus for this bill came from a group of young women in my District who have seen this challenge and wanted to do something about it.

In 2021, this body passed HB 205 which required that public schools install menstrual product dispensers in girl's restrooms. While the dispensers have gotten installed some schools have failed to routinely stock their dispensers, leaving dispensers empty and products unavailable.

This lack of restocking leaves students without reliable access to essential hygiene products, increasing stress and embarrassment, causing missed class time, and disproportionately impacting low-income students who may already struggle to afford these supplies.

HB 541 corrects this oversight by requiring that school boards restock their dispensers routinely just as they do with toilet paper, soap and paper towels, ensuring that students can manage their monthly cycles with lowest possible impact.

Let's create a Maryland where our female students do not need to worry about access to these products and can focus on staying in the classroom and getting the quality education they deserve. I respectfully request a favorable report on HB 541.