



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

***Raised Bill No. 5272***

LCO No. 1295



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 18-69e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 Correctional staff at York Correctional Institution shall, upon request,  
4 provide an inmate at the institution with [feminine hygiene] menstrual  
5 products as soon as practicable. Correctional staff shall provide such  
6 [feminine hygiene] menstrual products for free, [and] in a quantity that  
7 is appropriate to the health care needs of the inmate and in a manner  
8 that does not stigmatize any inmate seeking such products, pursuant to  
9 guidelines established by the Commissioner of Public Health under  
10 section 6 of this act. To carry out the provisions of this section, the  
11 Department of Correction may (1) accept donations of menstrual  
12 products and grants from any source for the purpose of purchasing such  
13 products, and (2) partner with a nonprofit or community-based  
14 organization. For purposes of this section, ["feminine hygiene  
15 products"] "menstrual products" means tampons and sanitary napkins.

16       Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) On and after July 1, 2022, each  
17 local and regional board of education shall provide free menstrual  
18 products, as defined in section 18-69e of the general statutes, as  
19 amended by this act, in restrooms that are accessible to students in each  
20 middle school and high school under the jurisdiction of such boards and  
21 in a manner that does not stigmatize any student seeking such products,  
22 pursuant to guidelines established by the Commissioner of Public  
23 Health under section 6 of this act. To carry out the provisions of this  
24 section, the local and regional boards of education may (1) accept  
25 donations of menstrual products and grants from any source for the  
26 purpose of purchasing such products, and (2) partner with a nonprofit  
27 or community-based organization.

28       Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) Each public institution of higher  
29 education, as defined in section 10a-173 of the general statutes, shall  
30 provide free menstrual products, as defined in section 18-69e of the  
31 general statutes, as amended by this act, in no fewer than one designated  
32 and accessible central location on each campus of the institution and in  
33 a manner that does not stigmatize any student seeking such products,  
34 pursuant to guidelines established by the Department of Public Health  
35 under section 6 of this act. Each public institution of higher education  
36 shall post notice of such location on its Internet web site. To carry out  
37 the provisions of this section, each public institution of higher education  
38 may (1) accept donations of menstrual products and grants from any  
39 source for the purpose of purchasing such products, and (2) partner  
40 with a nonprofit or community-based organization.

41       Sec. 4. Section 8-359a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
42 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

43       (a) The Commissioner of Housing may, upon application of any  
44 public or private organization or agency, make grants, within available  
45 appropriations, to develop and maintain programs for homeless  
46 individuals including programs for emergency shelter services,  
47 transitional housing services, on-site social services for available  
48 permanent housing and for the prevention of homelessness.

49 (b) Each shelter receiving a grant pursuant to this section (1) shall  
50 provide decent, safe and sanitary shelter for residents of the shelter,  
51 including, but not limited to, through the provision of free menstrual  
52 products, as defined in section 18-69e, as amended by this act, in each  
53 restroom of such shelter that is accessible to its residents and in a  
54 manner that does not stigmatize any resident seeking such products,  
55 pursuant to guidelines established by the Commissioner of Public  
56 Health under section 6 of this act; (2) shall not suspend or expel a  
57 resident without good cause; (3) shall, in the case of a resident who is  
58 listed on the registry of sexual offenders maintained pursuant to chapter  
59 969, provide verification of such person's residence at the shelter to a  
60 law enforcement officer upon the request of such officer; and (4) shall  
61 provide a grievance procedure by which residents can obtain review of  
62 grievances, including grievances concerning suspension or expulsion  
63 from the shelter. No shelter serving homeless families may admit a  
64 person who is listed on the registry of sexual offenders maintained  
65 pursuant to chapter 969. The Commissioner of Housing shall adopt  
66 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54,  
67 establishing (A) minimum standards for shelter grievance procedures  
68 and rules concerning the suspension and expulsion of shelter residents,  
69 and (B) standards for the review and approval of the operating policies  
70 of shelters receiving a grant under this section. Shelter operating policies  
71 shall establish a procedure for the release of information concerning a  
72 resident who is listed on the registry of sexual offenders maintained  
73 pursuant to chapter 969 to a law enforcement officer in accordance with  
74 this subsection. To carry out the provisions of subdivision (1) of this  
75 subsection, each shelter may (i) accept donations of menstrual products  
76 and grants from any source for the purpose of purchasing such  
77 products, and (ii) partner with a nonprofit or community-based  
78 organization.

79 Sec. 5. Subdivision (122) of section 12-412 of the 2022 supplement to  
80 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
81 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

82 (122) Sales of [feminine hygiene] menstrual products.

83       Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) On or before July 1, 2022, the  
84 Commissioner of Public Health shall establish guidelines regarding the  
85 manner in which menstrual products may be provided pursuant to  
86 section 18-69e of the general statutes, as amended by this act, sections 2  
87 and 3 of this act and section 8-359a of the general statutes, as amended  
88 by this act, without stigmatizing the person who requests such products.  
89 The commissioner shall post such guidelines on the Department of  
90 Public Health's Internet web site.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	18-69e
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	8-359a
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	12-412(122)
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To require the provision of free menstrual products in various settings.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*