



Legislation Summary:

An Act to increase access to disposable menstrual products

Initial bill number(s): H.534/S.1381

Sponsors: Representatives Jay D. Livingstone

Senator Patricia D. Jehlen

What the bill does, why LWVMA supports or opposes it, and the League position relative to this bill.

This bill will increase access to menstrual products, without cost, in prisons, homeless shelters and public schools. Administrators at homeless shelters, prisons, and grade K-12 schools will be required to make sanitary napkins, tampons and underwear liners available to menstruating individuals, conveniently and without embarrassment.

Menstruation is a recurring reality for millions of individuals around the world. Menstrual products are a necessity and help these individuals maintain their health and dignity. Ensuring no-cost access to these products in schools, prisons and homeless shelters makes certain that menstruating individuals have the opportunity to address their personal needs and protects these individuals from being exploited as they seek to obtain these items.

The LWV seeks social and economic justice and equal rights for all and combats discrimination and poverty. *Where We Stand, p.34*