



The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i

Testimony to the Thirty-Second Legislature, 2024 Regular Session

Senate Committee on Government Operations

Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair

Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 3:45 PM.

State Capitol, Conference Room 225 & Via Videoconference

By:

Rodney A. Maile

Administrative Director of the Courts

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Bill No. and Title: Senate Bill No. 3000, Relating to Menstrual Products

Purpose: Requires the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) to provide menstrual products at no cost in specified restrooms in public buildings maintained by the department.

Judiciary’s Position:

The Judiciary supports Senate Bill No. 3000, which would provide menstrual products at no cost in specified restrooms maintained by DAGS.

The Judiciary supports the intent of this measure to address period poverty and help members of the public to have access to essential hygiene products that they may not otherwise have. Access to free menstrual products would provide equitable access to public facilities and reduce barriers faced by individuals at state buildings. The Judiciary is in the process of installing menstrual products dispensers and products at a number of our courthouses. We note that while the

Senate Bill No. 3000
Senate Committee on Government Operations
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
Tuesday, February 13, 2023
Page two

courthouses are open to the public, only the S. Kohala location on the Big Island is under the jurisdiction of DAGS.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 3000.



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
'OIHANA HALE WAIHONA PUKE AUPUNI O KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN
44 MERCHANT STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

**SENATE COMMITTEES ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
AND HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Tuesday, February 13, 2024
3:45 p.m.
Conference Room 225

By Stacey A. Aldrich
State Librarian

S.B. 3000 RELATING TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS

To: Sen. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Committee on Government Operations
Sen. Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair, Committee on Government Operations
And Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations

Sen. Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair, Committee on Health and Human Services
Sen. Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair, Committee on Health and Human Services
And Members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

The Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) **supports** S.B. 3000 which requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in specified restrooms in public buildings maintained by the department.

The Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) is in the process of deploying donated menstrual products at our public libraries but recognize that a consistent source of funding will be needed to make the products available throughout the year. We note that the language of the measure may need to be clarified as public libraries are public buildings, but are not under the jurisdiction of the Department of Accounting and General Services.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on S.B. 3000.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN
COMPTROLLER
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE COMMITTEES ON

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FEBRUARY 13, 2024, 3:45 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 225 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

S.B. 3000

RELATING TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS

Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support** of S.B. 3000 which requires the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) to provide menstrual products at no cost in specified restrooms in public buildings maintained by the department.

DAGS understands the importance of the availability of feminine hygiene products at designated DAGS-managed building restrooms. DAGS Central Services Division will collaborate with DAGS Public Works Division to determine the appropriate physical locations of the dispensers in each restroom to meet building code,

safety, health, and accessibility requirements. Our team looks forward to working with stakeholders on implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.



HAWAI‘I CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION **KOMIKINA PONO KIWILA O HAWAI‘I**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 411, HONOLULU, HI 96813 · PHONE: (808) 586-8636 · FAX: (808) 586-8655 · TDD: (808) 586-8692

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

3:45pm

Conference Room 225 & Videoconference
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

To: The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations

The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

From: Liann Ebesugawa, Chair
and Commissioners of the Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission

Re: S.B. No. 3000

The Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) supports S.B. No. 3000. This bill would require the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) to provide menstrual products free of charge in specified restrooms in public buildings maintained by the department.

The HCRC has enforcement jurisdiction over Hawai‘i’s laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and access to state and state-funded services. The HCRC carries out the Hawai‘i constitutional mandate that no person shall be discriminated against in the exercise of their civil rights. Art. I, Sec. 5. The HCRC provides these comments on S.B. 3000.

For individuals who menstruate, accessible period supplies may be the difference between going to work or missing out on professional development opportunities. Periods may begin suddenly, and

without affordable and easily accessible period products, menstruating individuals may have to use alternative items not intended for menstruation, or leave work premises to obtain period products.

According to a 2019 study by Obstetrics and Gynecology, barriers to menstrual equity include the cost of purchasing period products, the accessibility of period products, and safe and secure toilet facilities. Nearly two-thirds of low-income women were unable to afford period products at some point during the year, and nearly one-fifth experienced period poverty on a monthly basis. This study also found that individuals who are unable to access period products often have higher rates of school or work absenteeism and missed activities.

In 2022, Governor Ige signed Act 113 into law (Gov. Msg. No. 1213), requiring the Hawai'i Department of Education (DOE) to provide free menstrual products to all students on all DOE school campuses. Menstrual inequity does not end at primary or secondary schools. The HCRC supports S.B. No. 3000 because it would address this inequity in the workplace and in public buildings by requiring the DAGS to provide menstrual products free of charge in specified restrooms in public buildings.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 2:46:46 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Golojuch	Testifying for Rainbow Family 808	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Rainbow Family 808 supports SB3000. This bill is long overdue. Menstrual products should be provided at no cost in restrooms in public buildings. Please pass this bill.

Mike Golojuch, Secretary/Board Member

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 6:46:20 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Golojuch Jr	Testifying for Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

The Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i's oldest and largest policy and political LGBTQIA+ focused organization fully supports SB 3000.

We hope you all will support this important piece of legislation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)
Chair and SCC Representative
Stonewall Caucus for the DPH

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 9:19:42 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pride at Work - Hawaii	Testifying for Pride at Work – Hawai‘i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

Pride at Work – Hawai‘i is an official chapter of Pride At Work which is a national nonprofit organization that represents LGBTQIA+ union members and their allies. P@W-HI fully supports SB 3000.

We ask that you support this needed piece of legislation.

Mahalo,

Pride at Work – Hawai‘i

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 5:39:49 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
N/A	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs and Committee Members:

The ACLU of Hawai'i support S.B. 3000 Relating to Menstrual Products,

Access to menstrual products is a dignity and equity issue, but every day people across Hawai'i are unable to access the menstrual products they need.

Local, state, and federal government policies cause or exacerbate inequitable access by imposing sales taxes on menstrual products, refusing to provide products in institutions of incarceration such as prisons and jails, exempting menstrual products from public health benefits programs, and not making products uniformly available in public schools, homeless shelters and public buildings maintained by DAGS.

In 2019, ACLU and Period Equity issued a report that provides an overview of the issue of menstrual equity in the U.S. It demonstrates the inequities of access to menstrual products, specifically for those living in poverty and those who are incarcerated, and documents the damaging medical and emotional consequences of this lack of access.

<https://www.aclu.org/publications/unequal-price-periods>

The ACLU's commitment to gender equality and an equity framework is intended to acknowledge the far-reaching societal importance of and need for public policy to address the safety, affordability, and availability of menstrual products for everyone who needs them.

Please pass S.B. 3000.

Sincerely,
Carrie Ann Shirota

Policy Director, ACLU of Hawai'i



P.O. Box 4270 Kaneohe, HI 96744
www.breastfeedinghawaii.org

TO: Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair, Senator Henry Aquino, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Health and Human Services
Senator Angus McKelvey, Chair, Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Government Operations
FROM: Patricia Bilyk, RN, MPH, MSN, IBCLC (Retired)
Breastfeeding Hawaii Board Member

RE: SB 3000 Free Menstrual Products in State Buildings
DATE: Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Good Afternoon Chairs San Buenaventura and McKevey, and Vice Chairs Aquino and Gabbard and members of the Senate Committees on Health and Human Services and Government Operations.

I am Patricia Bilyk and I am speaking for Breastfeeding Hawaii in SUPPORT of SB 3000 to require the Department of Accounting and General Service to install in each covered restroom a dispenser or similar device for the provision of free menstrual products. Also to ensure access for all menstruating people, if a covered public building has no gender-neutral or family restroom, the department shall provide free menstrual products in at least one men's restroom in that covered building and place signage in the remaining men's restrooms in that covered public building to indicate the location of free menstrual products.

Breastfeeding Hawaii is a 501c3, non profit organization whose mission is to protect, support and promote breastfeeding in the State of Hawaii. We also support persons in their reproductive times specifically in this case their needs during menses. We also promote more gender menstrual equity in our State.

Menstrual products are a basic necessity for our population and visitors like toilet paper, and handsoap and economically in some cases, persons are unable to obtain them at a critical time. We are providing testimony in support of the needs of all menstruating persons who find themselves in public restrooms in need of supplies because their menses have arrived sooner than they anticipated. We would also like to see these products be placed in men's restrooms especially for gender-diverse persons.

We encourage you to pass this piece of legislation.

Thank you for accepting our thoughts on this important issue for our community and visitors



February 13, 2024

The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Government Operations

The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

Re: SB 3000 – RELATING TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS

Dear Chair McKelvey, Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Aquino, and
Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 3000, which will require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in specified restrooms in public buildings maintained by the department.

HMSA appreciates the legislature's intent to ensure that members of the public have access to essential hygiene products that support public health.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Dawn Kurisu
Assistant Vice President
Community and Government Relations



The Thirty-Second Legislature, State of Hawaii
Senate Committee on Government Operations
Honorable Chair Angus McKelvey
Honorable Vice Chair Mike Gabbard
Committee Members

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
Honorable Chair Joy San Buenaventura
Honorable Vice Chair Henry Aquino
Committee Members

Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 3:45 pm

RE: Support for SB 3000 - Relating to Menstrual Products in Public Buildings Maintained by the Department of Accounting and General Services

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs, and members of the Committee,

Ma'i Movement Hawai'i **strongly supports SB 3000**, which requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of public buildings maintained by that department and appropriates funds. We **offer an amendment** to the bill to place signage in all restrooms of those covered public buildings to indicate the location of free menstrual products and include language to include family restrooms.

Ma'i Movement Hawai'i is a locally grown organization committed to addressing menstrual inequity and ending **period poverty**, or the inability to buy and access menstrual products, due to factors including but not limited to financial constraints, lack of menstrual health education, feelings of societal shame or stigma surrounding menstruation, and inadequate access to clean facilities to maintain proper hygiene. We recognize the all-encompassing societal challenges inherent in tackling the broader issue of period poverty and menstrual inequity that disproportionately affects students, low-income and houseless girls and women, trans and gender non-conforming individuals, and those who are incarcerated. Menstruation is a natural monthly occurrence experienced by nearly half the population and an estimated [302,000](#) menstruators (aged 10-44 years) in the State of Hawai'i, for much of their lives. **Access to period products is a fundamental human right, instrumental to the general health and welfare of those who menstruate.**

First, we regulate and ensure toilet paper and paper towels are available in state office building restrooms for health and sanitation, and menstrual products should be no different. It is well-established in research and our [own statewide data](#) that when menstruators have limited access to resources during menstruation, they seek other coping methods. This includes but is not limited to the practice of using unsafe and

potentially harmful alternatives, like leaves, paper towels, and socks, using menstrual products beyond the recommended time, or going with none at all. As a result, menstruators face potential medical issues, including preventable infections that make them susceptible to cervical cancer, infertility, and toxic shock syndrome, which are serious and can result in death.

It is easy to blame menstruators for forgetting to bring their menstrual products with them. However, [14% to 25%](#) of women have irregular menstrual cycles, meaning their cycles are shorter or longer than normal, are heavier or lighter than normal, or are experienced with other problems, like painful periods. While menstruators can track their menstrual cycle using a calendar or app to predict the first day of onset of menstruation, there is no way to predict the exact time of day of onset. In a [study](#) analyzing the time of day of onset of menstruation, only 13% experienced bleeding commencing within the same 3-hour time interval, and almost 50% demonstrated a very wide variation with onset at almost any time of day. Nevertheless, social stigma on menstruation continues to make menstruators feel shame about menstruation. In the United States, [58%](#) of menstruators are ashamed of having a period, and 51% of men believe that it is improper to discuss periods at work. Because of this, menstruators feel shame speaking about their periods and are uncomfortable asking others for help when they have difficulty obtaining them.

Furthermore, menstrual products are becoming economically out of reach for a growing number of menstruating girls, women, trans, and gender non-conforming individuals in our State. The [2021 report conducted by Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women and Ma'i Movement Hawai'i](#) revealed the extent of the issue in the state. The exceptionally high cost of living and wage gap for women specifically exacerbate period poverty in Hawai'i. 90% of respondents believe menstrual products are expensive, and nearly 30% of respondents reported that they or someone in their household experienced difficulty obtaining them, of which cost was the most cited reason. Menstruation also impacts participation in daily activities, with half of respondents reporting missing school or work because of it. Menstrual products are vital for the physical and mental health, well-being, and full participation of menstruators. Failure to consider period needs is a form of sex-based discrimination that disproportionately affects menstruators.

In addition, increased access to period products in state buildings will likely lead to increased productivity and opportunity for state workers and decreased barriers to visitors. [86%](#) of people who menstruate have started their periods unexpectedly in public, and 34% have needed to leave what they were doing to retrieve menstrual products at home. Such disruptions cost considerable time and resources. Moreover, 46% of adult menstruators reported in a national study, [State of the Period](#), that they are afraid their career growth could be negatively affected if they ask for accommodations. Oftentimes, menstruators suffer through humiliating menstrual moments in public, like bleeding through their clothes or on chairs, which adversely affect their productivity, attention, and social-emotional well-being.

Since our founding in 2020, we have seen the demand and need for period products grow across the state. We have distributed nearly 1.1 million disposable and reusable period products to individuals and 135+ organizations on all islands except for Kaho'olawe.

As examples, we:

- Collaborated with the Hawai‘i State Capitol to install dispensers in all Senate bathrooms in 2022 and the House on the third floor women’s bathroom in 2023
- Collaborated with the Hawai‘i State Librarian using grants from the [National Foundation for Women Legislators](#) and [Hawai‘i People’s Fund](#) to install 60 dispensers and free period products in all 51 state libraries.
- Collaborated with the Hawai‘i State Judiciary to install 25 dispensers with 10k products across six courthouses on O‘ahu, Kaua‘i, Hawai‘i island, and Maui
- Collaborated with Kaua‘i County to increase access to free period products in public-serving facilities, like a public park and county building
- Supported disaster relief efforts on Maui and distributed nearly 220,000 disposable and reusable period products in the immediate aftermath and to present-day recovery efforts
- Donated to 135+ organizations statewide, such as Neighborhood Place of Puna and Kona, North Hawai‘i Domestic Violence Action Committee, Ka‘u Rural Health Clinic, Hawai‘i Foodbank Kaua‘i, Mālama Pono Health Services, Marshallese Association of Kaua‘i, Food Pantry Lana‘i, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Maui, Maui Family Support Services, Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center, Moloka‘i Community Health Center, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Center, Hale Kipa, Hui Mahi‘ai Aina, and Ke Ola Mamo.
- Collaborated with students and faculty at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, University of Hawai‘i–West O‘ahu, University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, Hawai‘i Community College, University of Hawai‘i Maui College, Honolulu Community College, Kapi‘olani Community College, Leeward Community College, Kaua‘i Community College, and Windward Community College to install dispensers and provide period products; and met with students and leaders at private higher education institutions, like Chaminade University of Honolulu, Brigham Young University–Hawaii, and Hawai‘i Pacific University, to start programs on their campuses

Anecdotal evidence suggests that there have been little to no instances of vandalism, product overuse, waste or damage to bathroom facilities. This was evidenced in our school pilot and reported by several of the aforementioned partners, such as at the Hawai‘i State Capitol and Hawai‘i State Judiciary. In cases where there were issues, additional education and signage with information helped to rectify the situation. Contrary to the assumptions, making period products free and available in public-serving facilities is welcomed and needed. State Librarian Stacey A. Aldrich shared “Hawai‘i’s public libraries enthusiastically embrace this effort to support the health and well-being of our communities”. Additionally, Third Circuit Chief Court Administrator Dawn West commented “While adequate food and shelter readily come to mind as daily necessities, access to these personal hygiene products can be difference makers in the lives of girls and women.”

Finally, SB 3000 **does not require** that period products be placed in all men’s restrooms. Period products will only be made available in at least one male restroom if there is no gender-neutral or family restroom. This is because people have a right to use the bathroom that aligns with their gender. Around [5%](#) of recipients we donate period products to do not identify as female. Also, through evidence-based practice in the school pilot we ran, we found that males and non-menstruating students also accessed and advocated for access to period products to support their friends, girlfriends, and peers. Providing period products in at least one male restroom if a gender-neutral restroom or family is not available ensures access to all menstruators and those who may be helping them at the onset of menstruation.

There is growing support nationally and globally for expanded access to free menstrual products. As examples from the past few years, [Ann Arbor](#), [Austin](#), [Utah](#), and [Washington DC](#) have passed legislation to make menstrual products free and available in state facilities. Congresswoman Grace Meng (D-NY) introduced sweeping legislation to address menstrual needs in the federal bill [H.R. 3646 - Menstrual Equity For All Act of 2023](#).

Offered Amendments: Place signage in all bathrooms and update language to include family restrooms

*Install in each covered restroom a dispenser or similar device for the provision of free menstrual products. To ensure access for all menstruating people, if a covered public building has no **gender-neutral or family restroom**, the department shall provide free menstrual products in at least one men's restroom in that covered public building and place signage in the remaining men's restrooms in that covered public building to indicate the location of free menstrual products.*

We urge you to support **SB 3000** and welcome you to contact us with any additional questions you may have. Mahalo for your leadership and service to Hawai‘i!

Me ke aloha,

Nikki-Ann Yee
Co-Founder & President
Ma‘i Movement Hawai‘i



Hawaii Women's Coalition

TO: Senate Committee on Government Operations
Honorable Chair Angus McKelvey
Honorable Vice Chair Mike Gabbard
Committee Members

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
Honorable Chair Joy San Buenaventura
Honorable Vice Chair Henry Aquino
Committee Members

DATE: Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 3:45 pm

FROM: Hawai'i Women's Coalition

RE: **Support for SB3000** - Relating to Menstrual Products in Public Buildings
Maintained by the Department of Accounting and General Services

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs, and members of the Committee,

The Hawai'i Women's Coalition is a catalyst for progressive, social, economic and political change through action on critical issues facing Hawaii's women and girls. Members currently include 29 organizations and agencies (private, public, membership), as well as individuals. The coalition encourages the inclusion of interested parties and in achieving equitable representation.

The Hawai'i Women's Coalition respectfully submits testimony **in strong support of SB3000**. The free provision of menstrual products is vital for ensuring the health, dignity, and full participation of menstruators. A [national study](#) commissioned by Free the Tampon found that 86% of people who menstruate have started their periods unexpectedly in public, and 79% have had to improvise a tampon or pad out of toilet paper or something else. Women, mähū, trans men, gender non-conforming, and non-binary people who menstruate deserve to have their basic needs met.

Local data from the [2021 survey conducted by Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women and Ma'i Movement Hawai'i](#) explored the extent of period poverty and menstrual inequity in the state. Nearly 30% of respondents reporting that they or someone in their household experienced difficulty obtaining period products, **of which high cost was the most cited reason**. 84.7% believe menstrual equity is a real problem, like food and housing insecurity.



Hawaii Women's Coalition

By providing menstrual products in state buildings, Hawai'i helps ensure those who menstruate have equal access to public facilities, irrespective of their gender or economic status.

SB3000 is an initiative that takes steps to address menstrual inequity in Hawai'i and promotes common goals of public health, basic equity, and gender equality for girls, and transgender and non-binary people. For all of these reasons, the Hawai'i Women's Coalition is pleased to support **SB3000**. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Hawai'i Women's Coalition

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 3:16:02 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doris Matsunaga	Testifying for Save Medicaid Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Save Medicaid Hawaii supports SB3000

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 6:00:25 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tanya Smith-Johnson	Testifying for Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies fully supports

LATE

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 11:09:37 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Midwives Alliance of Hawaii	Testifying for Midwives Alliance of Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for hearing this bill. I ask that you support SB3000. This would be a positive step towards ending period poverty in Hawaii.

COUNTY COUNCIL

Mel Rapozo, Chair
KipuKai Kualii, Vice Chair
Addison Bulosan
Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Felicia Cowden
Bill DeCosta
Ross Kagawa



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, County Clerk
Lyndon M. Yoshioka, Deputy County Clerk

Telephone: (808) 241-4188
Facsimile: (808) 241-6349
Email: cokcouncil@kauai.gov

Council Services Division
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209
Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766

February 9, 2024

**TESTIMONY OF ADDISON BULOSAN
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL
ON
SB 3000, RELATING TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS
Senate Committee on Government Operations
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
Tuesday, February 13, 2024
3:45 p.m.
Conference Room 225
Via Videoconference**

Dear Chair McKelvey, Chair San Buenaventura, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of SB 3000, Relating to Menstrual Products. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Kaua'i County Council.

I wholeheartedly support the intent of SB 3000, which would greatly affect the Kaua'i community.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 3000. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188 or via email to cokcouncil@kauai.gov.

Sincerely,

ADDISON BULOSAN
Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council

AAO:slr

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 8:37:54 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
dennis boyd miller	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The opposition to this bill is citing hysteria regarding a senseless accomodation of trans people.

The state has a duty to provide public education as to why accomodating trans people is not sensless but is instead a moral duty. The state should provide this education before shocking some members of the public with a bill that puts female products in the mens bathroom.

This bill is good but is not adequate; it needs a public education campaign at the same time.

So, in addition to placing the female products in the mens bathroom, include a poster, ruggedly installed behind bullet proof glass, which explains why.

The primary objection to trans people is that "its an absurd choice which I don't have to respect."

Since being trans is the result of the genetic lottery and has nothing to do with choice, teach that. Help to create public understanding of the entire LGBTQ etc spectrum. Understanding is required before accptance can happen.

Dennis B Miller

Waikiki

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 3:40:37 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sasha Mizuguchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the initiative to provide free period products in all state buildings across Hawaii. As a resident and advocate for menstrual equity, I believe that ensuring access to these essential products is not only a matter of basic hygiene but also an issue of equality and dignity.

Menstruation is a natural and unavoidable aspect of life for millions of individuals, and yet, the financial burden it poses can be significant, particularly for those facing economic hardships. Lack of access to period products can lead to missed school or work days, compromised health, and a sense of shame or embarrassment. By providing free period products in state buildings, Hawaii has the opportunity to address these challenges and promote the well-being and productivity of its residents.

Moreover, ensuring access to period products is a matter of gender equality. Menstruation is not exclusive to one gender, and individuals of all genders may experience it. By providing free period products, the state of Hawaii can affirm its commitment to inclusivity and gender equity, sending a powerful message that all individuals deserve to manage their periods with dignity and without barriers.

I commend the efforts of those advocating for this initiative and urge decision-makers to swiftly implement it. By taking this important step, Hawaii can set a precedent for other states to follow, demonstrating its commitment to the health, dignity, and equality of all its residents.

Thank you for considering my testimony in support of this crucial issue.

Sincerely,

Sasha Mizuguchi

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 3:51:13 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Olderr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this common sense bill.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 7:38:51 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maya	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in absence of that, in at least one men's restroom with signage in the remaining men's restrooms.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill

I also want to add the following:

This bill is an initiative that takes steps to address menstrual inequity by reducing health risks, alleviating the burden of period poverty, and protecting the dignity of all menstruating people.

- Menstrual products are a basic necessity, toilet paper, hand soap, and other personal hygiene products, but are economically out of reach for a growing number of menstruating girls, women, and gender-diverse people.

- Establishing wider access to free menstrual products would help to ensure more inclusive and equitable access to public facilities, reduce barriers faced by visitors to state buildings meeting basic needs, and promote greater menstrual equity in the State.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 12:14:01 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tysha Vesperas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The people of Hawaii have long been living with the burden of residing in a state that has one of the highest cost of living. This issue is progressive and there's no relief in sight that can combat the struggles caused by rising interest rates and finite resources. Nowadays it's standard to have a 2 income household, not even to live comfortably but just to remain stably housed. This is not an opinion but a reflection of life experiences as well as the most recent published ALICE report. Almost half of Hawaii's families have unmet basic needs. This means having to compensate in one area or the other just to get by. Women already have to overcome the systemic inequality that permeates societal institutions in order to have some type of economical worth; a worth that is now a necessity as a result of the cost of living. Women cannot help the fact that we menstruate and in a perfect world this biological mechanism would not create a barrier for those living in poverty. But as we know, this world is far from perfect and menstrual products are costly. This is why I support SB3000 and feel that a little act of kindness can go a long way in supporting the plight of women.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 8:18:08 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Krystine Ann Cabrera	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Dear Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

My name is Krystine Cabrera and I am testifying in support of the proposed bill SB3000, which aims to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide free menstrual products in all public restrooms of covered buildings. The bill also mandates that all menstruating individuals have access to these products, regardless of gender, by providing them in gender-neutral restrooms or at least one men's restroom with proper signs in other men's restrooms.

I am in favor of this bill because there have been multiple instances where I had to resort to using toilet paper when menstrual products were not available. This is an unhygienic and uncomfortable situation that many menstruating individuals face. If menstrual products are made available, it would reduce the barriers visitors face in the state buildings, meet the need for sustainable hygienic menstrual care, and promote menstrual equity across our state.

I have provided various menstrual products to students at the East-West Center through a \$500 and \$5,000 grant that I won to have these products readily available, however, this is not sustainable. Approving this bill would allow these products more access for menstruators across the state and would make a big difference, especially since a menstruator can have a period at any time.

I appreciate the opportunity to support this bill and thank you for considering it.

Sincerely,

Krystine Cabrera

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 9:04:36 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I **oppose** this Bill which may require free menstrual products in public men's restrooms.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 9:46:57 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaiulani Bowers	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I absolutely oppose this Bill. Biological men do NOT need menstrual products and there should NOT be these products in the men's restroom.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 9:56:07 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sharron VanDeusen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB3000.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 10:40:58 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sierra Palpallatoc	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE THIS BILL

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 11:03:24 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kamakani de dely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill! Waste of taxpayers money. How about you use this money for something useful

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 11:08:19 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mallory De Dely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill! Better uses for tax payers money

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 11:12:23 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Dedely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 11:40:07 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Manulani Garcia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 12:14:27 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in absence of that, in at least one men's restroom with signage in the remaining men's restrooms.

me ke aloha 'āina,

Nanea Lo, Mō'ili'ili, O'ahu

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 12:20:56 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cari Sasaki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Here's a sentence I never thought I'd have to write:

We should not be spending tax dollars to put pads and tampons in the men's bathroom.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 12:50:34 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doug Pasnik	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this legislation.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 12:55:06 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justyce Torres	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

REAL men don't menstrate they don't need those In the bathroom. REAL women menstrate and need them more! Tax dollars need to be spent wisely not fearfully of push back from a group of Alphabets.

OPPOSE SB3000

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 2:07:05 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne Kamau	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Mahalo.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 2:12:33 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kelly morgan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. Our tax dollars should not be spent on things like this.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 3:44:50 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kerry Thon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in absence of that, in at least one men's restroom with signage in the remaining men's restrooms.

I have personally had a situation where I didn't have any money and unexpectedly got my period in a public place. I had to go home since I couldn't access to period products. If those products were free, I would have been able to remain in the public space. I have the financial resources to obtain period products, which I had at home, but others do not. Some may not be able to leave the public spaces they are in to go home (if they are in court, for example) and this can lead to embarrassing and unhygienic situations. I view period products like I view toilet paper and soap in public bathrooms...as an essential item. I hope you vote in support of this bill to ensure equal access to public spaces for both those who menstruate and those who do not.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 4:14:20 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeffrey F Mizuno	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 4:29:04 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaimionalani Gamble	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support bill SB3000.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 4:41:00 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andres Mateo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DO NOT PASS THIS BILL.

THE USE OF MENSTRUAL MATERIAL ON PUBLIC RESTROOM IS UNNECESSARY, SPECIALLY IF YOU ARE DOUNG THE SAME IN MEN'S PUBLIC RESTROOM.

ALONG WITH THIS BILL YOU ARE PASSING THE IDEOLOGY OF LGBTQ+ FOR TAKING AWAY THE DEFINITION OF BATHROOM FOR EITHER MALE OR FEMALE. THERE SHOULD BE A DESTINTION IN WHERE MEN AND WOMEN ARE GOING TO PEE OR DO OTHER HUMAND NECESSITIES. MALE AND FEMALE HE CREATED THEM.

FROM THE BEGINNING, MEN DO NOT HAVE MENSTRUAL CYCLE NEITHER WOULD THEY HAVE MENSTRUAL CYCLE NOW NEITHER WILL THEY IN THE FUTURE. MALE AND FEMALE HE CREATED THEM.

MEN DO NOT GIVE BIRTH. ONLY WOMEN CAN GET PRENANT. ONLY WOMEN HAVE OVERIES.

DO NOT PASS THIS INSANE BILL.

BE SAFE OUT THERE FOLKS!

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 5:10:13 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yvonne Alvarado	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Yvonne Alvarado Oppose to Bill SB3000

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 5:12:52 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
L. Miles	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill in as far as using tax-payer dollars to provide free menstrual products in state facilities.

For my entire life I have provided for my own menstrual products, as I have for all personal hygiene products and never expected taxpayers of the state to fund them.

I believe if the products are left in public restrooms they will be stolen or vandalized, and will not benefit those for which they are intended.

If you believe there is such “inequity” and the need for taxpayers to pay for “menstruating people’s” menstrual products, then perhaps create a “Period Poverty Center” where (GIRLS and WOMEN) may apply for and receive menstrual products.

Regarding providing free menstrual products to MEN, this is a ridiculous waste of taxpayer dollars, as MEN do not menstruate and do not need such products, regardless of how they “identify” or believe their gender to be.

I oppose my taxpayer dollars being used to supply menstrual products to biological males who do NOT menstruate and do NOT need them.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 5:33:47 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
tania victorine	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Men do not menstruate and should not have these. It is a waste of taxpayers money and machines will be vandalized.

there are only 2 genders, and the women's bathroom isn't even equipped with free tampons. This is discrimination to biological women.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 6:29:59 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dalene McCormick	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Could you all spend your time writing bills that benefit the residents of Hawaii. Taxpayers are fed up and you want to spend your time writing bills that result in further expense to the state over woke ideology that has no benefit to the people. I can't believe I have to waste my time opposing this stuff.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 6:54:54 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alberta Lono	Testifying for surfing4truth	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB3000. It's a ridiculous bill

Alberta Lono-Morolt

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 7:21:30 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
TERI SAVAIINAEA	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB3000.

Thank you,

Teri Savaiinaea

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 7:23:44 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thaddeus Pham	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

As a public health professional and concerned citizen, I write in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB3000, which would require the provision of menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Importantly, the bill also requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in absence of that, in at least one men’s restroom with signage in the remaining men’s restrooms.

Having worked in local public health for over 15 years, I have witnessed how improving access to health products beyond clinic settings can vastly improve community health. Both global and national research attests to the importance of providing low-threshold access to menstrual products. For example, refer to Rawat, et al (2023) at <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10318639/#Sec1title>.

This bill takes steps to address menstrual inequity by reducing health risks, alleviating the burden of period poverty, and protecting the dignity of all menstruating people. Menstrual products are a basic necessity akin to toilet paper, hand soap, and other personal hygiene products, but are economically out of reach for a growing number of menstruating girls, women, and gender-diverse people. Establishing wider access to free menstrual products would help to ensure more inclusive and equitable access to public facilities, reduce barriers faced by visitors to state buildings meeting basic needs, and promote greater menstrual equity in the State.

Mahalo for considering this important bill to promote health equity in Hawai'i.

Thaddeus Pham (he/him)

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 7:58:34 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sue S.	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this ridiculous bill! If you want to spend taxpayer's money to put these products in the women's bathroom fine then. But to even think of putting them in the men's bathroom is totally asinine!

My son went into the men's bathroom at the UH West campus and got confused, he thought that he had mistakenly went into the women's bathroom when he saw the feminine products.

Also another young man that came into the restroom was confused as well.

These products do not belong in the men's bathroom! Why is the state government getting involved into something as ridiculous as this and wasting our taxpayer's money? What is the purpose of having them in the men's restroom? Are you trying to feminize our men? All menstruating women bring their own products from my own experience.

I find this proposal to be so ridiculous that it just makes me so angry!! Stop wasting taxpayers money on such asinine ideas!

Don't you have anything better too do?

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 9:04:36 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruben Ongos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS BILL

Aloha e Chair McKelvey, Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Aquino, and beloved Committee Members,

My name is Chrisovolandou Gronowski and I attend UH Manoa's MSW distance education program and am a resident of the East side of Hawaii Island. I am testifying in support of SB 3000, which will require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in the absence of that, in at least one men's restroom with signage in the remaining men's restrooms.

Growing up in a rural area of Hawai'i nei, I have witnessed firsthand the effects of period poverty on those who struggle with access to appropriate menstruation products. I myself grew up struggling in impoverished conditions, and have come close to missing important days of my life due to the inability to access these products during my puberty and even into early adulthood. I have **cried** in embarrassment as a teenager, finding that my period had started in a public area where I had no access to menstrual products and no financial means to procure what I needed.

This bill is an initiative that takes steps to address menstrual inequity and end period poverty that requires low investment. Statewide statistics from a 2021 survey conducted by Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women and Ma'i Movement Hawai'i found that 42% of respondents reported missing class or leaving school early due to a lack of accessibility to period products. 50% of respondents have missed work or school because of their period.

Menstrual products are **essential** and should be considered a **right** and not a luxury to procure. Denial of access to such products demonstrates an explicit gender-based exclusion and oppression. Menstruators cannot control nor cease their menstrual cycle and should not suffer simply because of their biology. The bill addresses this issue and promotes common goals of public health, basic equity, gender equality, and education equity.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Chrisovolandou "Vol" Gronowski

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 10:04:07 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathy Jenkins	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

An expeditious & dangerous fund. In the state buildings what about in she public schools for those of our island keikis who are of age. Most government workers are over the age for this plus it opens the door to these growing criminal activities in our very vulnerable public spaces. Be smart. Algorithm's is a scientific process to stop crime. Use it. Look at the trending sexual crime reports in bathrooms. Open your eyes!

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 10:07:34 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
CHESTER LUM	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony opposing this bill.

SB3000 should be withdrawn and no funds appropriated.

Once again, thank you for allowing me to submit testimony opposing this bill.

Chester Lum

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 10:11:51 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Diamond	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB3000. Perverted according to old Webster dictionary. Destroying human dignity. Destroying man dignity. Destroying woman dignity.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 10:13:55 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marlies Lee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

This is so stupid, I can't even believe this is being talked about and wastes our tax money!

Help the homeless instead!!!!

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 10:19:34 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sheila Medeiros	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB3000. Tax payer money should not be spent on tampons in men's bathrooms. Men cannot menstruate.

vr

sheia medeiros

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 11:14:25 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathryn MacKenzie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure and this use of State tax dollars.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 11:47:00 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christy MacPherson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard and members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations, and Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino and members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services,

I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB3000. This is an important step towards menstrual equity for members of our community who cannot afford to pay for period products. Not everyone will need these products at no cost, but we should ensure that those who do need them have access.

Mahalo for your consideration.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 1:05:42 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terry Murakami	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 2:39:39 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vernelle Oku	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

im confused as to why we would spend taxpayer money to put menstrual products in the men's restrooms. Also this bill seems to be overreaching in scope.



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
PRINCESS VICTORIA KAMĀMALU BUILDING
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543

February 13, 2024

The Honorable Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Senate Committee on Government Operations
The Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
The Thirty-Second Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawai'i
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator McKelvey, Senator San Buenaventura, and Committee Members:

SUBJECT: SB3000 RELATING TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS

The Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS SB3000**, which requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in specified restrooms in public buildings maintained by the department. Appropriates moneys. Declares that the appropriation exceeds the state general fund expenditure ceiling for 2024-2025.

Currently, individuals with Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) residing in licensed or certified homes receive a fixed \$50 monthly personal allowance for incidental expenditures. This allowance, established in 2007, is intended to cover various needs such as telephone expenses, hobbies, prescription drugs, haircuts, clothing, and other incidental items. However, it has become increasingly apparent that essential items like the individual's choice of their preference of menstrual and other personal products are often competing for these limited funds.

Females living in these circumstances should not be compelled to allocate their sparse allowance to meet their basic menstrual product needs. SB3000 represents a positive step forward in addressing this issue, ensuring that individuals with I/DD have access to necessary menstrual products without compromising their personal allowance for other personal items. We firmly believe that this bill aligns with our commitment to advocating for the well-being and dignity of individuals with

The Honorable Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Senate Committee on Government Operations
The Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
February 13, 2024
SB3000 - Support
Page 2

developmental disabilities. By removing financial barriers to menstrual products, SB3000 supports the daily lives of those who require their choice of these essential items.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of SB3000**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daintry Bartoldus". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 8:17:05 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Stongly Oppose

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 8:29:02 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Airabella Molina	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Aquino, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in the absence of that, in at least one men's restroom with signage in the remaining men's restrooms.

I support this because I have experienced period poverty firsthand, not having a menstrual product on me at the time of my period coming unexpectedly. In the absence of period products, I used toilet paper to suffice until I was able to find a period product. No menstruating individual should have to deal with period poverty.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 8:39:56 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
THOMAS KENT	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE THIS BILL.

February 12, 2024

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

My name is Courtney Hamakawa and I am a resident on the east side of the Big Island and I am testifying in support of SB3000 to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in absence of that, in at least one men's restroom with signage in the remaining men's restrooms.

As a Hawaii DOE Homeless Liaison, I have witnessed the utter tragedy and shame that many of our homeless and low-income female students and families experience by having to go without feminine hygiene pads as for the families I work with, these items are considered "luxury" items. Some students have even been "scolded" for using the restroom during work/class time to make home-made pads out of wadded toilet paper. Some students have also missed school due to having periods and are embarrassed to go to school due to having no access to pads. We have to do all we can to make these already costly products less expensive and more accessible by being more readily available in more public restrooms. I urge all of you to pass this much needed bill to provide some level of relief to make these needed period products more accessible in the public domain.

Respectfully,

Courtney Hamakawa
DOE- East Hawaii Community Homeless Concerns Liaison

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 9:33:01 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kanoë Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Strongly Oppose

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 9:33:47 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
stacy diaz	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

oppose

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 9:36:13 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tonya Miller	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose the use of time, funds, and human resources to complete and tend to this initiative as it is wholly a waste and unnecessary. If one shall need such items, they may be subject to compromise as many women do and have since the beginning of time without. This special attention shall be looked at instead for its wasting our resources for a nonissue while ignoring many other pressing hardships that impact many, daily on this island where most public park restrooms visited by many people from all walks of life go to relieve themselves, and yet **we still equally have to contend with lack of *Handsoap*, even in the time of pandemic level illnesses. Please fulfill our basic hygiene needs first, for all people.**

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 9:43:22 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Felicidy Phimmasone	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Welina Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in the absence of that, in at least one men's restroom with signage in the remaining men's restrooms.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 9:43:25 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noela von Wiegandt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose this Bill SB3000 strongly.

Its a sad day in The State of Hawai'i when the introducers of this ridiculous bill have the nerve to expect majority of the citizens to believe that FEMALE hygiene products be placed in Men's bathrooms.

Citizens who do not know by now if they are a male or female, should be treated for mental health issues.

Stop trying to ram this nonsense down We The Peoples throats. There is no such thing as "gender equity", this is an assault to all Biological female citizens.

Are you Legislators daft and addled brained?

Stop this nonsense please.

Thank you very much.

Noela von Wiegandt

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 9:56:24 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kim Cordery	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this insane bill! Men do not need menstration products! This is another example of promoting the agenda of accepting transgenders as normal, and the tax payers should NOT be Paying for this!

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 9:58:06 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Martin Choy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose the bill because it favors specific groups to use public funds that the ordinary majority of citizens shouldn't have to provide for their self imposed needs.

Ordinary citizens have to buy their own personal merchandise so why should we have to buy for "favored" groups. The government shouldn't be promoting favoritism.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 10:03:30 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joelle Seashell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

unreal...

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 10:12:06 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maddalynn Seseapasara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am wering in full suport for this bill.

this bill is an initiative that takes steps to address menstrual inequity by reducing health risks, alleviating the burden of period poverty, and protecting the dignity of all menstruating people. Menstrual products are a basic necessity akin to toilet paper, hand soap, and other personal hygiene products, but are economically out of reach for a growing number of menstruating girls, women, and gender-diverse people. Establishing wider access to free menstrual products would help to ensure more inclusive and equitable access to public facilities, reduce barriers faced by visitors to state buildings meeting basic needs, and promote greater menstrual equity in the State.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Maddalynn Seseapasara

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 10:34:06 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne Leake	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

All menstruating girls in enrolled in public school need to have sanitary products available regardless of their ability to pay. They should not have to miss school if they are without. Mahalo for considering this request.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 10:34:33 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kay Aina	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and Committee members,

Please defer this measure. While perhaps well-intentioned, it assigns responsibility to the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS), which oversees building leases and maintenance, vehicle acquisitions, and computer systems. DAGS has no expertise in health products nor their complexity in terms of avoiding adverse reactions, for which our State could be sued by non-residents and residents alike under this measure.

In addition, this measure commits our State to provide these health products for an indefinite period of time, adding an additional tax burden to those residents that this measure intends to help: those least able to afford our already high cost of living.

There are better alternatives to assist our citizens with the cost of health products over a 40-year period. A general excise tax exemption for medical and health products would be one example. Please defer this measure. Thank you.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 10:53:11 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephen Baughn	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong opposition of this bill because there are no males that menstruate. Nor should the tax payers need to fund the support of any shinanogans that these delusional people want to take part in. Tax payers have a hard time providing for them selves and their families and shouldn't be forced to have to pay for these useless services!!

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 10:54:56 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isabel Casimiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in absence of that, in at least one men’s restroom with signage in the remaining men’s restrooms.

In addition, this bill is an initiative that takes steps to address menstrual inequity by reducing health risks, alleviating the burden of period poverty, and protecting the dignity of all menstruating people. Menstrual products are a basic necessity akin to toilet paper, hand soap, and other personal hygiene products, but are economically out of reach for a growing number of menstruating girls, women, and gender-diverse people. Establishing wider access to free menstrual products would help to ensure more inclusive and equitable access to public facilities, reduce barriers faced by visitors to state buildings meeting basic needs, and promote greater menstrual equity in the State.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Isabel Casimiro, MD, PhD

Endocrinologist

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 11:13:19 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amanda Martinez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in absence of that, in at least one men’s restroom with signage in the remaining men’s restrooms.

I support this because I have experienced/witnessed/believed

In addition, this bill is an initiative that takes steps to address menstrual inequity by reducing health risks, alleviating the burden of period poverty, and protecting the dignity of all menstruating people. Menstrual products are a basic necessity akin to toilet paper, hand soap, and other personal hygiene products, but are economically out of reach for a growing number of menstruating girls, women, and gender-diverse people. Establishing wider access to free menstrual products would help to ensure more inclusive and equitable access to public facilities, reduce barriers faced by visitors to state buildings meeting basic needs, and promote greater menstrual equity in the State.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Amanda Martinez, MPH

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 12:12:13 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shayla-Ann Santos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Periods are an introduction to womanhood. They should be acknowledged, supported socially, and now we are requesting to put period products in buildings across the Hawaiian Islands because of the striking period poverty that affects the whole world. We've started creating safe and private spaces in women's and family restrooms on campuses and in institutions, but this should be something that people of all backgrounds should be for. Women and people with periods go through very uncomfortable situations alone and in public that should be raised the the State's eyes. Personally, I've not had a mother to guide me through this difficult process and offer clean, easy, and safe products to be available to me. I've always struggled with my ma'i and used to be ashamed of it. Thanks to the education, help, and support of Ma'i Movement, I now know better and am able to be an advocate for the youth and people in Hawai'i that experience the same situations. Period poverty strikes the heart of the islands and all women and Native Hawaiians that experience this as well. The homeless experience these struggles daily. We all have a story surrounding the pressures and expectations of entering womanhood and this is a solution that can be solved with the help of the state.

I believe in privacy, safety, and the efforts of one indivual creating a butterfly effect. Through this bill we can not only support the people of our islands, but also be there for all women and people with periods who have been shunned, bullied, teased, or laughed at for simply going through our natural cycles.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 12:34:25 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carolyn Witcover	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure to make feminine hygiene products available to females in government and university facilities. Not having easy access to such products can be embarrassing and very disruptive. As a child of 11, I had a "bleed through" and was so embarrassed by the spot on my skirt that it haunts me to this day. To some extent it made me hate being a woman since the possibility of getting caught unprepared was ever a looming possibility. These items are not cheap and for some women I imagine that purchases must be forgone in favor of a higher priority item. A menstrual cycle cannot be controlled and males do not face the same monthly burden. Please support this legislation which can eliminate a barrier to well-being.

Mahalo

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 12:36:22 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeanine Acopan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSED!!!

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 12:47:16 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Trina Orimoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in **strong support of SB3000** to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in absence of that, in at least one men's restroom with signage in the remaining men's restrooms.

Period products should be as ubiquitous as toilet paper or paper towels.

Mahalo for all that you do for our communities and for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

With gratitude,

Trina Orimoto, PhD

Licensed Child & Adolescent Psychologist

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 1:21:46 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Betsy Scolnik	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this for all women and girls!

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 1:29:12 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
GLENISS AKAMINE	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha

I support this bill because it is an initiative that takes steps to address menstrual inequity by reducing health risks, alleviating the burden of period poverty, and protecting the dignity of all menstruating people. Menstrual products are a basic necessity akin to toilet paper, hand soap, and other personal hygiene products, but are economically out of reach for a growing number of menstruating girls, women, and gender-diverse people. Establishing wider access to free menstrual products would help to ensure more inclusive and equitable access to public facilities, reduce barriers faced by visitors to state buildings meeting basic needs, and promote greater menstrual equity in the State.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill. Thank you for your hard work to envision and create a better community.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 1:29:19 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shayna Bing	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha to whom this may concern,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in absence of that, in at least one men's restroom with signage in the remaining men's restrooms.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

me ke aloha,

Shayna Bing

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 1:51:19 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexandra Chou	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Everyone deserves to have access to free menstrual products. I want to share that on our campus we've had our ma'i product containers thrown away in the men's restrooms and replaced with notes that say to leave these out of men's restrooms and put them in the women's. We are starting an educational campaign to raise awareness about why they are in the men's restroom. See our respecting gender identity website, scroll to the bottom for the bathroom statement.

<https://queerifyhi.wixsite.com/queerifyhi/gender-identity>.

It is important to break the stigma of who menstrates and to provide access to the products in all bathrooms.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 1:51:50 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Kern	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

February 12, 2024

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura and Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Aquino and Vice Chair Gabbard and Committee Members,

I am testifying in strong support of SB891 to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in absence of that, in at least one men’s restroom with signage in the remaining men’s restrooms.

In 2021, Ma’i Movement Hawaii and the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women published a study to better understand the ways that period poverty affects the menstruators of our state. The study found that 50% of respondents had missed school or work due to their periods and that nearly 30% of respondents had difficulty obtaining period products due to various barriers including cost, knowledge, accessibility, and stigma. Establishing wider access to free menstrual products would help to ensure more inclusive and equitable access to public facilities and reduce barriers faced by visitors to state buildings meeting basic needs. This bill also protects the dignity of all menstruating people and promotes greater menstrual equity in the State.

Menstruation is a bodily function that is just as important as any other bodily function. It is a biological process, and people who menstruate cannot simply “opt out” of having their periods. Thus, menstrual products are a basic necessity like toilet paper, hand soap, and other personal hygiene products, but are economically out of reach for a growing number of menstruating girls, women, and gender-diverse people. The state currently provides soap, toilet paper, and paper towels in its bathrooms (and continues to stock them when

vandalism or theft occurs) because those are basic necessities that people need to address their bodily functions. The state doesn't expect non-menstruators to provide their own rolls of toilet paper in each of its buildings, yet it currently does expect menstruators to provide their own menstrual products. This is unfair and has been the status quo for far too long. The State of Hawaii can do better, and the people of Hawaii deserve better.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Mahalo nui loa,

Sarah Kern

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 1:58:06 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mamiko Carroll	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in SUPPORT of SB3000, Relating to menstrual products
Hearing February 13, 2024, 3:45 p.m. CR 225

Chair McKelvey, Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Aquino, and
Committee Members,

Please pass SB 3000 and make period products free in our state buildings. Menstrual products
are a basic necessity like toilet paper and hand soap.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of SB 3000.

Mamiko Carroll
House District 48
Senate District 23

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 2:05:25 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Desiree Kaluna-Kealohanui	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

I am here to offer my support for the bill SB3000. The proposed bill requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products for free in every public restroom of covered public buildings. Additionally, the bill seeks to provide access to all menstruating individuals by making the products available in gender-neutral restrooms. In cases where gender-neutral restrooms are not available, the products must be placed in at least one men's restroom and the remaining men's restrooms must have appropriate signage.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify in support of this bill .. Desiree

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 2:14:45 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marcy Kaholokula Nichols	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Quick biology lesson for those of you who may have been sleeping in class back in the day: WOMEN have 2 "X" chromosomes and MEN have 1 "X" and 1 "Y" chromosome. Women, and only women, are able to menstruate, become pregnant, give birth and breastfeed. Women require hygiene products because women menstruate. Biological males do not menstruate nor do they even if they are taking hormones to become women. Why is this? Because they were not born with the reproductive system of a women in order to be able to menstruate. The Lord up above created Adam and Eve.

I have grown up with mahus for uncles and gay aunties. I do not nor does any of my family members recall Uncle Puna asking for tampons to shove up his non-existent vagina. He never asked for pads because he was bleeding. He certainly didn't tell our family that he was pregnant at any time. If he had at any time announced to our family that he was menstruating or pregnant, I can assure you that we would have been extremely concerned with his mental stability. Why would that be? Because it is a grand delusion to think that as a male you would be in need of women's hygiene products because you're bleeding out of a vagina you do not have. Those who support this also should ask themselves why would you enable such a behavior?

I would suggest instead that as the legislative body you enact bills that change the way Department of Health and Human Services manages their caseload with the children who are in the system. That you pass bills that follow a foster child in the system from the time they enter to when they age out or a bill for the harshest of penalties for those that torture or murder children. That we prevent another Peter Boy, Ariel Kalua and now sweet Geanna. You were elected to better your communities and our state: please do your job. Prioritize the welfare of our children, the elderly, the safety of our state, or find ways to keep our families in Hawai'i.

I ask you this: what would you like your legacy in our legislature to look like? Would you want to be known for passing legislation so men could have access to products they don't need? Or, that you helped pass legislation to ensure that our foster children would be safe in a system in which they had no choice to be in? The answer is very clear to me and I hope it is to you as well.

I appreciate your time.

Marcy Kaholokula Nichols

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 2:31:47 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emi Shigekane	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

My name is Emi Shigekane, and I am a freshman in college from Kailua. I am testifying in support of SB3000 to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building.

Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in absence of that, in at least one men's restroom with signage in the remaining men's restrooms.

I really urge you to see the bigger picture of this bill, which is that it will be the state government providing its citizens with basic hygienic necessities. I think that the people of Hawai'i deserve menstrual products free of charge everywhere, but especially in state buildings, where you all have direct control. Please, think of your daughters, wives, nieces, mothers, friends, and coworkers--wouldn't you want them to know that they are provided for in a menstrual emergency?

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 2:51:03 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brandy Yee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please consider moving this bill forward. I have experienced period poverty and honestly its degrading. Please think of your mother, grandmother, sister, cousins, aunties... etc who has had periods in their life. what situations have they experienced and how would wan to help them . Please think of our future. E'o Hawai'i

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 2:59:37 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nastassja Dinulong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in absence of that, in at least one men's restroom with signage in the remaining men's restrooms.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 3:01:37 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Abby Poisson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

My name is Abby Poisson and I am submitting testimony in strong support of SB 3000 to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. This bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in absence of that, in at least one men's restroom with signage in the remaining men's restrooms.

This bill is an initiative that takes steps to address menstrual inequity by reducing health risks, alleviating the burden of period poverty, and protecting the dignity of all menstruating people.

Menstrual products, as well as all other hygiene products, are a basic necessity that is deserved by all people, regardless of their socio-economic status. Menstrual hygiene is inextricably linked to the health and well-being of all menstruating persons, which constitutes nearly half of the population of the state of Hawai'i, if not more.

Menstrual products are not a luxury, nor a privilege; they are a need. To reduce the stigma around menstruation, especially for gender-diverse persons, having menstrual products readily available in public restrooms is hugely important.

I kindly and strongly ask that you pass SB 3000.

Mahalo for your time and consideration!

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 3:06:19 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tracey Beaudry	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is not the states responsibility to waste taxpayer money on menstrual products in public bathrooms. Often state bathrooms don't provide toilet paper and regular cleaning. Let's focus on what's necessary like clean bathrooms with toilet paper!!! I oppose this bill.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 3:12:30 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scott Shedko	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

There must be better ways to spend hard earned tax payer money than installing, maintaining, and providing free tampons in men's restrooms, as well as the building-wide signage!

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 3:51:53 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
L.C.	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. If anyone who uses the men's room needs these products they should bring their own....like many people who use the ladies room do. I don't want my tax dollars going to installing and supplying these products in restrooms where the majority of users will have no personal use for them.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 5:45:20 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 7:30:36 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Lieu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Aquino, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Furthermore, the bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in gender-neutral restrooms and in absence of that, in at least one men's restroom with signage in the remaining men's restrooms.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 9:55:27 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Catherine Thyne	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Are you guys for real? Why aren't our Tax Dollars being spent on important things! Like helping the people of Lahaina? Feeding the Homeless, Housing Crisis, infrastructure, water issues, the list goes on and on!

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 11:07:17 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melissa W. Chong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge you to support SB3000. It is time we all do everything we can to end period poverty and be part of the solution.

thank you for hearing this bill.

Melissa Chong

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 11:24:52 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
iPaul Koa Luke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou Senators on the Committees on Government Operations and Health and Human Services,

I write to you today as a private citizen in support of Bill SB3000 Ma'i equity/menstrual equity. I believe all people who menstrate have the right to access menstrual products and education without financial burden, shame, or stigma. This Bill will ensure menstrual products for low income individuals and works towards a society that can guarantee accessibility. I also write to you as a Kanaka 'Ōiwi man in total support of menstrual products in the men's room because everyone has the right to products no matter how they identify or how society perceives them. I'd like to add that menstrual products are available iin all the men's bathrooms at my workplace and think that's kind of cool because it shows that our workplace is working to be a more equitable workplace.

I mahalo you for this opportunity once again I support this bill!

Paul Koa Luke

[SB 3000](#)

To: The Senate, 32nd Legislature, 2024, State of Hawai'i

S.B. No. 3000

Feb 13 2024

IN SUPPORT of S.B. 3000

I'm Talia Edmonds, a student at the Thompson School of Social Work at UH Manoa, pursuing my MSW with a specialization in Behavioral Mental Health. I support S.B. 3000 because it addresses the growing poverty gap in Hawaii, particularly regarding period poverty, which negatively affects the well-being of all users of menstrual products. My advocacy for this bill stems from discussions in my Advanced Social Welfare Policy Analysis & Change course, highlighting the importance of implementing policies that promote justice in society. This bill emphasizes the urgent need to ensure access to resources for the well-being of every individual in Hawaii.

Transitioning to my second point, I'm compelled to share my personal perspective as a woman who has experienced menstruation since the age of 12. While acknowledging the profound ability of women to create life, I must emphasize the dual nature of menstruation – a complex interplay between the miraculous and the inconvenient. On one hand, the ability to conceive is a remarkable aspect of womanhood, but on the other, dealing with the inconveniences of menstruation, compounded by the financial burden of necessary products, presents a significant challenge. For me, the term "inconvenient" accurately captures this struggle, but for those less financially comfortable, the impact can be accurately described as "harmful." In Hawaii, this issue is exacerbated by the exceptionally high cost of living and the wage gap for women.

In my view, it's unjustifiable to burden individuals with expenses for necessities beyond their control, such as the inherent biological process of menstruation. Requiring women to pay for period products seems fundamentally unfair. Menstruation, a natural aspect of female physiology, is not a choice but an essential function of the human body. Why should individuals be financially penalized for a biological occurrence that's inherently beyond their control? It raises questions about equity and fairness, particularly when considering that menstruation is often portrayed as a natural aspect of female life, even described in some cultures as a divine gift or part of the natural order. Therefore, the insistence on charging for these products can be seen as both unreasonable and out of touch with the realities of menstruation as an integral part of women's health and well-being.

In conclusion, as a student at the Thompson School of Social Work at UH Manoa, pursuing my MSW with a specialization in Behavioral Mental Health, I wholeheartedly support S.B. 3000. This bill is essential for ensuring the well-being of every individual in our state, addressing period poverty as a serious negative outcome. Having experienced the challenges of menstruation firsthand, I understand the significant impact that the cost of period products can have, especially for those who are not as financially comfortable. Providing free menstrual products upholds principles of fairness, dignity, and gender equality. Therefore, I urge you to support S.B. 3000 and take a meaningful step towards addressing period poverty in Hawaii. Thank you for considering my testimony.

Talia Edmonds

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/13/2024 8:21:34 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Milianta-Laffin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committees on Government Operations, and Health and Human Services,

My name is Sarah Milanta-Laffin, and I teach at 'ilima Intermediate School in Ewa Beach. Beginning in 2019, my students worked on bills for free period products in all public schools. We were proud to stand with the Governor at the bill signing ceremony in June 2022 that guarantees all public schools will now have free period products for students.

This bill is the next step toward equity in our society. Students will grow up with period products in their schools, and they should expect the same in public spaces if we are honoring our our commitment to giving them a society better than we had as adults. Please support this bill.

Mahalo,

Sarah "Mili" Milianta-Laffin

Public School Teacher

SB-3000

Submitted on: 2/13/2024 12:23:56 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/13/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tuiaana Scanlan	Testifying for IATSE 665	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard, Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino, and members of the Senate Committees,

My name is Tuia'ana Scanlan, International Trustee and president of IATSE 665, the union representing technicians and artisans in Hawai'i's entertainment industry. Local 665 stands in strong support of SB 3000.

There is a systemic lack of access to menstrual products such as pads and tampons. Period poverty and the broader issue of menstrual inequity are silent threats to menstrual health, and thereby affect overall general health and well-being. These threats have serious ramifications at the individual and societal levels, including detrimental impacts on public health, gender equality, mental health, access to education and work, and the ability to provide for one's basic needs. Access to menstrual products is a workers rights issue and a human rights issue. We hope you will support this important piece of legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify