

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1439

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 30 2023

RE: S.C.R. No. 27  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2023  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred  
S.C.R. No. 27 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF  
HAWAII TO SUPPORT ENDING MENSTRUAL INEQUITY BY PROVIDING  
MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS TO ALL PERSONS, FREE OF CHARGE, IN ALL  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII RESTROOMS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the  
University of Hawaii to support ending menstrual inequity by  
providing menstrual products to all persons, free of charge, in  
all University of Hawaii restrooms.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, University  
of Hawai'i System, Ma'i Movement Hawai'i, PERIOD., Hawaii Women's  
Coalition, Midwives Alliance of Hawaii, Zen Den Midwifery, and  
twenty-nine individuals.

Your Committee finds that menstrual products are essential to  
the physical and mental health, well-being, and full participation  
of menstruators. Despite the necessity of menstrual products for  
the maintenance of personal hygiene, menstrual products are not  
provided within all restrooms. This is in stark contrast to other  
necessary hygiene products, such as toilet paper and soap, which  
are provided at no cost to restroom users. In recognition of the



critical role menstrual products play in menstruators' lives, and thus menstruators' education, various entities, of their own volition, have developed and implemented various initiatives to provide menstrual products, free of charge, in restrooms on all ten University of Hawaii campuses. However, due to the lack of institutional leadership and resources invested into providing menstrual products, distribution of these products is inconsistent and inequitable within and among campuses. Therefore, this measure requests the University of Hawaii to address this inequitable distribution, and the greater issue of menstrual inequity, by providing menstrual products in all University restrooms.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting findings regarding the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at Kapiolani Community College's implementation of a pilot program, of their own volition, that provides menstrual products, free of charge, in Kapiolani Community College restrooms;
- (2) Inserting findings regarding the University of Hawaii at Hilo's independent implementation of a program that provides menstrual products, free of charge, in campus restrooms;
- (3) Clarifying that the University of Hawaii System is urged to provide menstrual products, free of charge, to all students at all university, community college, and education center campuses as part of a public health and education equity strategy that addresses economic disparities;
- (4) Requesting that, beginning in the fall semester of 2023, each University of Hawaii System Chancellor consult with the student council of the Chancellor's respective campus regarding the type and amount of menstrual products to be provided at the campus;
- (5) Requesting that the University of Hawaii System submit a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2024 on



the status of providing menstrual products, free of charge, to all of the System's campuses;

- (6) Requiring certified copies of this measure to be transmitted to the Chair of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii System, each University of Hawaii System Chancellor, and the Executive Director of Equity Assurance of the University of Hawaii;
- (7) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 27, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 27, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Higher Education,



DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



