

The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i Testimony to the Thirty-Second Legislature, 2024 Regular Session

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 28, 2024, 10:01 a.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 221 & Via Videoconference

By:
Rodney A. Maile
Administrative Director of the Courts

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Bill No. and Title: Senate Bill No. 3000, S. D. 1, 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, S.D. 1 which would provide menstrual products at no cost in specified restrooms maintained by the Department of Accounting and General Services (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 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 this neasure.



STATE OF HAWAI'I

STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
PRINCESS VICTORIA KAMĀMALU BUILDING
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
February 28, 2024

The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means The Thirty-Second Legislature State Capitol State of Hawai'i Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Dela Cruz and Committee Members:

SUBJECT: SB3000 SD1 RELATING TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS

The Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS SB3000 SD1**, 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. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded. Makes an appropriation. Takes effect 7/1/2112. (SD1)

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 SD1 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 developmental disabilities. By removing financial barriers to menstrual products, SB3000 SD1 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 SD1**.

Sincerely,

Daintry Bartoldus

Executive Administrator



STATE OF HAWAI'I HAWAI'I STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

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

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, February 28, 2024 10:01 a.m. Conference Room 211

> By Stacey A. Aldrich State Librarian

S.B. 3000 S.D.1 RELATING TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS

To: Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means Sen. Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means And Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations

The Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) **supports** S.B. 3000 S.D.1 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 (DAGS). Should this measure be adopted with an appropriation, HSPLS will work with DAGS to distribute the products to our library branches.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on S.B. 3000 S.D.1.



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

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

STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I 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

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

FEBRUARY 28, 2024, 10:01 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL
S.B. 3000, S.D. 1

RELATING TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support** of S.B. 3000, S.D. 1 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 DAGS.

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. The amount of \$1.1M for the first year and \$700K for annual maintenance with 2% annual supplies inflation factored in thereafter would be required to appropriately fund this measure.

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

COUNTY COUNCIL

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



Council Services Division 4396 Rice Street, Suite 209 Līhu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766 Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, County Clerk Lyndon M. Yoshioka, Deputy County Clerk

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

Telephone: (808) 241-4188 Facsimile: (808) 241-6349

Email: cokcouncil@kauai.gov

February 26, 2024

TESTIMONY OF ADDISON BULOSAN COUNCILMEMBER, KAUA'I COUNTY COUNCIL ON

SB 3000, SD 1, RELATING TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS AND

SB 3183, SD 1, RELATING TO ROAD USAGE CHARGE PROGRAM
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, February 28, 2024
10:01 a.m.
Conference Room 211
Via Videoconference

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of SB 3000, SD 1, Relating to Menstrual Products and SB 3183, SD 1, Relating to Road Usage Charge Program. 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, SD 1 and SB 3183, SD 1, which would greatly affect the Kaua'i community.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 3000, SD 1 and SB 3183, SD 1. 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

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 9:26:14 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Golojuch Jr	Testifying for Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i		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 SD 1.

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

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 7:05:55 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly urge you to support SB3000 and help end period poverty by increasing access to much needed products.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 8:17:49 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sylvia Dolena	Testifying for Aloha Lokahi Association - Hawaiian Culture Education	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support underprivileged girls who already have a difficult time in school.

Mahalo,

Sylvia Dolena

President, Aloha: Lokahi Assoc.



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

TO: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair, Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair and Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Patricia Bilyk, RN, MPH, MSN, IBCLC (Retired)

Maternal Child Clinical Nurse Specialist Breastfeeding Hawaii Board Member

RE: SB 3000 SD1 Free Menstrual Products in State Buildings

DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 10 am

Good Morning Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and Members of the Ways and Means Committee.

I am Patricia Bilyk and I am speaking for Breastfeeding Hawaii in **SUPPORT of SB 3000 SD1** 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 dispenser 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. Often these products are not available to menstruating persons due to economical reasons as well. It is important for persons to obtain these products at a critical time each month to protect their dignity.

We are providing testimony in support of the needs of all menstruating persons who find themselves in public restrooms in need of menstrual supplies because their menses have arrived sooner than they anticipated. For gender diverse persons we would also like to see dispensers with these products be placed in men's restrooms.

We encourage you to pass this piece of legislation.

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

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 2:43:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Zonta Club of Hilo c/o	Testifying for Zonta Club	Support	Written Testimony
Advocacy Chair	of Hilo		Only

Comments:

The Zonta Club of Hilo supports SB3000, SD1. Zonta is an international organization empowering women and girlls. We want to build a better world for women, girls and our keiki. We agree with the Standing Committee Report 2717, for SB2000, SD1 that states::

"... that eighty-six percent of people who menstruate have started their periods unexpectedly in public, and thirty-four percent have needed to leave what they were doing to retrieve menstrual products at home. Furthermore, your Committees find that for individuals who menstruate, accessible period supplies may be the difference between going to work or missing out on professional development opportunities. Additionally, your Committees find that menstrual products are a basic hygiene necessity for our population like toilet paper, paper towels, and hand soap, which the State already provides free of cost in all bathrooms. Moreover, your Committees find that there have been little to no instances of vandalism, product overuse, waste, or damage to bathroom facilities that currently supply menstruation products as was evidenced in school pilot programs, at the Hawaii State Capitol, and Hawaii State Judiciary. Therefore, this measure establishes wider access to free menstrual products and reduces barriers faced by residents and visitors to state buildings in meeting basic needs."

The Zonta CLub of Hilo supports SB3000, SD1. Mahalo for considering our testimony.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/25/2024 2:51:02 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Rainbow Family 808 supports SB3000. Please pass this bill. Thank you.

Mike Golojuch, Sr., Secretary/Board Member



February 26, 2024

Senate Committee on Ways and Means Hawai'i State Capitol 415 South Beretania St. Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: SB3000 - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Alliance for Period Supplies, I am writing to express our strong support for SB 3000, which aims to provide greater access to menstrual hygiene products to people who menstruate across Hawaii. This crucial initiative aligns with our mission to ensure that individuals experiencing period poverty have equitable access to essential menstrual hygiene products.

The Alliance for Period Supplies is comprised of over 120 independent nonprofit organizations across 37 states and Washington, D.C. that collect, warehouse, and distribute period products to those in need. In Hawaii, one of our allied programs is hard at work to end period poverty - a growing public health issue impacting 2 in 5 people that is characterized by an inability to afford enough menstrual products due to lack of income.

The advancement of equitable access to menstrual products is vital for ensuring the health and dignity of those that reside in the state. In addition to resource costs, a lack of access to menstrual products can also cause serious health issues, including emotional duress, physical infection, and disease. Inadequate menstrual support is also associated with other health and psycho-social issues, particularly among low-income people.

Menstruation is an essential bodily function - ensuring that menstrual products are freely available in restrooms in state buildings recognizes that fact. As such, Senate Bill 3000 represents a critical step towards addressing period poverty by requiring the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

The Alliance for Period Supplies commends the Senate Committee on Ways and Means for considering this important legislation. We firmly believe that access to menstrual hygiene products should be a right, not a privilege, and this bill aligns with our vision of creating a society where no one faces barriers to accessing these essential items.

We urge the Senate Committee on Ways and Means to pass Senate Bill 3000, a measure that will make a profound difference in the lives of individuals who struggle to afford these basic necessities. By doing so, you will advance a more inclusive and equitable future for our communities while positively impacting the lives of countless individuals across Hawaii.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. We stand ready to support and collaborate with you in any way possible to ensure the successful passage and implementation of this essential legislation.

Sincerely,

Zoey Craft

Manager of Legislative Policy Alliance for Period Supplies

Zoey Craft



Inspiring individuals to reclaim and enrich their lives by utilizing innovative resources and harnessing the strengths within each person.

Kea'au Administrative Office and Treatment Center

16-179 Melekahiwa Street Kea'au, Hawai'i 96749 P: (808) 969-9994 F: (808)969-7570

Hilo Outpatient Treatment

295 Waiānuenue Avenue Hilo, Hawaiʻi 96720 P: (808) 935-4927 F: (808) 934-8067

Kona Outpatient Treatment

75-5722 Kuakini Highway #217 Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740 P: (808) 322-3100 F: (808) 322-3001

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Members

Dr. Lissandra Baldan-Jenkins David Bishaw Dave DeLuz Jr. Breeani Kobayashi Sharri Thornton Ross Wilson Aloha,

I am Dr. Hannah Preston-Pita, CEO of the Big Island Substance Abuse Council (BISAC). For 60 years BISAC has been providing behavioral health services on Hawaii Island. We value our partnerships with agencies who help the most vulnerable populations. Together, we are able to provide comprehensive care to improve the overall quality of life for many individuals and their families. Our partnership with the Ma'i Movement has allowed us to provide feminine products to women and their families in treatment.

We strongly support legislations and policy that 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, including all state libraries, and appropriates funds.

If you have any further questions please contact me at dr.hannah@bisac.com. Mahalo for your time and patience.

Sincerely,

Hannah Preston-Pita, Psy, D. Ed, D CSAC

Chief Executive Officer





RE: Support for SB3000 - Relating to the Provision of Menstrual Products in Administrative Buildings for No Cost

Wednesday, February 28, 2024, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and members of the Committee,

Period Law is a national legal and policy organization working in support of menstrual equity legislation across the country. We are proud to follow the lead of Hawaiians working in this space, such as the Mai'i Movement, by voicing our support for SB3000, which serves to make menstrual discharge collection devices available at no cost in administrative buildings.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration classifies menstrual tampons as Class II medical devices and pads as Class I medical devices. The 2020 CARES Act designated menstrual products as medical necessities for the purpose of HSA and FSA accounts. These medically necessary products are essential to Hawaiians participating with dignity in daily life and should be treated as such in public buildings.

We urge you to **support SB3000** and welcome you to contact us with any additional questions you may have. Thank you for your leadership and service.

Sincerely, Period Law

Contact: Suzanne Herman, Legal Director, suzanne@periodlaw.org.



Feb 26, 2024

Testimony in support of Hawaii Senate Bill 3000 - RELATING TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS

Aloha Committee Members,

PERIOD. is writing to testify in strong support of HB 3000, which would require the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in specified restrooms of public buildings maintained by that department, including all libraries. It requires DAGS to place free period product dispensers in all women's and gender-neutral restrooms. If there is no gender-neutral restroom, then the dispenser will be placed in at least one men's restroom to ensure access to everyone with signage in all locations. This bill takes practical and essential steps to address period poverty for all hawaiians who menstruate while using restrooms in public buildings.

Hawaii has already required free menstrual products in schools, and it is time to ensure free menstrual products are also available in public spaces.

- Research shows that 86% of menstruators get their periods unexpectedly while in public
- Increasing access to menstrual products in public spaces reduces health risks, alleviates the burden of period poverty, and protects the dignity of all people who menstruate.
- Menstrual products are a basic necessity like toilet paper and hand soap.

Establishing wider access to menstrual products would help 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.

As a global youth-fueled nonprofit that strives to eradicate period poverty and stigma through service, education, and advocacy, PERIOD. is proud to follow the lead of Hawaii menstrual equity organizations like the Mai'i Movement in support HB 3000. Our strong network of over 250+volunteer PERIOD. Chapters around the world support the increased access of free menstrual products in public buildings, and applaud this bill.

We strongly urge all members of this committee to increase access to menstrual products in public buildings and unanimously support HB 3000.

Mahalo,

Michela Bedard Executive Director

PERIOD.

Damaris Pereda

PERIOD.

National Programs Director



February 28, 2024

Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz Vice Sharon Y. Moriwaki Sen. Henry J.C. Aquino Sen. Lynn DeCoite Sen. Troy N. Hashimoto

Sen. Troy N. Hashimoto Sen. Lorraine R. Inouye Sen. Dru Mamo Kanuha Sen. Michelle N. Kidani Sen. Donna Mercado Kim

Sen. Chris Lee

Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro

Sen. Glenn Wakai Sen. Kurt Fevella

Re: SB2474 SD1 Relating to Menstrual Products

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

The Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (HSCADV) addresses the social, political, and economic impacts of domestic violence on individuals, families, and communities. We are a statewide partnership of domestic violence programs and shelters.

On behalf of HSCADV and our 27 member programs statewide, I respectfully submit testimony in strong support of SB3000 SD1, which would request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

- Research shows that 86% of menstruators get their periods unexpectedly while in public.
- This measure 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, and prevent people from going to school or work.
- 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 and libraries meeting basic needs, and promote greater menstrual equity in the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Sincerely, Angelina Mercado, Executive Director



The Thirty-Second Legislature, State of Hawaii Senate Committee on Ways and Means Honorable Chair Donovan Dela Cruz Honorable Vice Chair Sharon Moriwaki Committee Members

Wednesday, February 28th at 10:01am

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

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

Ma'i Movement Hawai'i **strongly supports SB3000**, 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 shall include covered restrooms located in public libraries, and appropriates funds. We **offer an amendment** to the bill to place signage in all restrooms of those covered public buildings and libraries 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 <u>own statewide data</u> 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.

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. Other state reports, like the Alice in Hawai'i: 2022 Fact and Figures report, revealed that the number of Hawai'i households struggling to make ends meet reached a new high in 2022, at 44% households. Equally concerning, 15% of households have income below the federal poverty level, which represented a sharp increase from 9% in 2018. When people struggle to make ends meet, they are more likely to also experience period poverty.

Menstruation also impacts participation in daily activities, with half of respondents in the aforementioned 2021 state report missing school or work because of it. Increased access to period products in state buildings and libraries 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. 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.

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.

Our work focuses on addressing period poverty and menstrual inequity in our state. Since our founding in 2020, we have seen the demand and need for period products grow. We have distributed nearly 1.1 million disposable and reusable period products to individuals and 135+ organizations on all islands except Kahoʻolawe.

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 <u>National Foundation for</u> <u>Women Legislators</u> and <u>Hawai'i People's Fund</u> 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, SB3000 **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 <u>5%</u> 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, <u>Ann Arbor, Austin, Utah</u>, and <u>Washington DC</u> 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 <u>H.R. 3646 - Menstrual</u> 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 **SB3000** 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

ORGANIZATION SUPPORT

AF3IRM Hawai'i
Aloha House Residential
Alternative Structures International (Waimanalo
Emergency Shelter)
Big Island Substance Abuse Council
Family Support Services Association
Hawai'i Island Community Health Center
Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center

Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence Hui Aloha 808 Kahului Hongwanji Buddhist Women's Lahaina Hongwanji Mission BWA Lanai Community Health Center Malama I Ke Ola Health Center Molokai Community Health Center PERIOD.

















TO: Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Honorable Chair Donovan Dela Cruz Honorable Vice Chair Sharon Moriwaki

Committee Members

DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2024, 10:01 am

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 Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, 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 <u>in strong support of SB3000</u>. The free provision of menstrual products is vital for ensuring the health, dignity, and full participation of menstruators. A <u>national study</u> 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, māhū, 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.

By providing menstrual products in state buildings and libraries, 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



TO: Senate Committee on Ways and Means Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2024

FROM: AF3IRM Hawai'i

RE: SB 3000 SD1 RELATING TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS

Position: SUPPORT

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on SB 3000, SD 1. AF3IRM Hawai'i **SUPPORTS this measure.** This measure 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.

Providing menstrual products in men's and gender neutral bathrooms is a key part of menstrual equity. Many AF3IRM members are also service providers and/or work for social service nonprofit organizations. We have seen that when non-menstruating boys and men have access to period products they are able to share them with their menstruating relatives, friends, and partners. Sharing free period products broadens access to those who need it, and also strengthens community care and understanding of period poverty as an issue that we can solve together.

In the same way that public goods such as education, libraries, and parks are for the people of Hawai'i, may we normalize and prioritize addressing the needs of our people. Through Ma'i Movement's years of advocacy, community members had a space to share their lived experiences with period poverty. They have inspired folks to also take action to address these needs through advocacy and collaborations with other nonprofit organizations, business, schools, and government leaders can continue to do their part in ensuring no one gets left behind.

Ma'i Movement's work has shed light on how period poverty and menstrual inequity result directly from socioeconomic, gender, and racial injustices. In the 2021 report, Hawai'is "exceptionally high cost of living and wage gap for women specifically exacerbate period poverty in Hawai'i. In addition, 90% of respondents believed that menstrual products are "expensive" with nearly 30% of respondents reporting that they or someone in their households experienced difficulty obtaining menstrual products.

Please pass SB 3000 to ensure equity and dignity to girls, women, and menstruators / menstruating people. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/27/2024 9:29:38 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

 Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jen Wilbur	Testifying for Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We are in very strong support of the measure.





February 28, 2024

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair The Honorable Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: SB 3000 SD1– RELATING TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 3000 SD1, 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



Submitted on: 2/27/2024 7:32:49 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted	l By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nikos Leve	erenz	Testifying for Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center (HHHRC) strongly supports SB 3000, SD 1, 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.

This bill would help alleviate <u>period poverty among women from this state's under-resourced communities</u>. The state could also move toward the abolition of sales taxes on menstrual products to further ensure gender equity.

HHHRC's mission is to reduce harm, promote health, create wellness, and fight stigma in Hawai'i and the Pacific. We work with many individuals who are impacted by poverty, housing instability, and other social determinants of health. Many have behavioral health problems, including those relating to substance use and underlying mental health conditions. Many of our clients and participants have been deeply impacted by trauma, including histories of physical, sexual, and psychological abuse.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 9:32:11 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Sub	mitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pride at	Work - Hawaii	Testifying for Pride at Work - Hawaiʻi	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 SD 1.

We ask that you support this needed piece of legislation.

Mahalo,

Pride at Work – Hawai'i

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 9:39:37 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building, including all libraries. The bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in all women's and gender-neutral restrooms. In absence of that, it will also be placed in at least one men's restroom to ensure access for anyone who needs it. As a young women from a low-income community, I personally have known others who have struggle with access to menstrual products due to their lack of financial means. This is very unfortunate as our menstrual health encompasses our full body health due to its interconnectedness with our hygiene. In order to promote the well being of all menstruating people, it is extremely important that SB3000 is passed.

Mahalo,

Tyler Bright

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 11:38:05 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leolani Mahuka iwaki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 11:46:47 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vincent r Golio	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The only reason for tampons in a men's room is if a fight breaks out and someone's nose is bleeding and you need one to shove up a nostril. OPPOSE. I, however, DO SUPPORT getting the lame brain legislator who submitted this an MRI to see what's broken in that head.OPPOSE, due to abject stupidity.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 11:47:24 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 11:50:51 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. We have better ways of spending tax money

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 11:56:11 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Better ways to spend tax money. Come on now!

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 12:05:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James K. Rzonca	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Totally opposed. This bill is just rediculous

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 12:24:11 PM Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teresa Parmenter	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose SB3000

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 1:08:30 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB3000.

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 1:40:18 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Magoon Ohana	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose as is- Supplying for women's bathrooms makes sense or at an "at cost" minimal fee, but NOT putting them in Men's bathrooms. Stop with the woke ideology. You all should re-read the 'Emperor Has No Clothes' book!

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 2:16:13 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James R Cabodol Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Definitely oppose!! Putting this in the MENS restroom you guys are unreal!! OPPOSE OPPOSE OPPOSE

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 3:24:39 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 4:09:06 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sash Fitzsimmons	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 4:25:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Lau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

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

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 4:27:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jill Fletcher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support free menstrual products in public buildings maintained by the department, including all libraries specifically in women's and gender-neutral restrooms.

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 4:52:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Patterson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As someone who works at a testing center, I have witnessed more than a few women unexpectedly start menstruation during study or during a test. The fact that our campus is provided supplies through ma'i is a life saver, otherwise, studies and tests that can NOT be paused would be disrupted. We have had multiple women have accidents on seats as well. Before pads were offered on campus, these women would have to end their test or study and go home. This is something that happens often, but is not publicly discussed, so the need for accessible supplies is not acknowledged. We also forget that many older women, or post partum women experience incontinence. Menstrual products can help in emergency situations. In a world where retirement is hard to reach, and maternity leave is short, we need to take care of womens health by giving them access to needed products.

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 4:57:01 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emily A. Roberts	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

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

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 5:09:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cameron Ahia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Cameron Mahealani Ahia and I support SB3000. Period poverty is a real threat and we have the opportunity to do something about it.

Thank you.

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 5:22:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emma Ishihara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Support of SB3000 Relating to Menstrual Products.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Esteemed Members of the Committee,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

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

Emma Ishihara.

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 6:03:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erik Meade	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify on SB 3000, which I strongly support.

While attending the William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I knew fellow students of the university who needed menstruation hygiene products who were also food insecure. What a trade off to be forced to make. I know what it is like to go to bed hungry. This bill will help reduce the period tax.

Thank you for your consideration, Erik Meade, Honolulu

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 6:07:59 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Oh my!

This should not even be on here! Taxpayer's dollars SHOULD NOT EVER BE USED FOR THIS! You have more important things to be using pur hard earned money for! Use our blood, sweat and tears for the people of Hawaii!!!!!!

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 6:29:22 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

As a public health professional and concerned citizen, I write in STRONG SUPPORT of SB3000 SD1, which would require the provision of menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each covered public building. Importanty, 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. Furthermore, recent research has found that the lack of access to menstrual products not only leads to worse health outcomes, but also contributes to "decreased participation in work and other activities". (Source:

 $https://journals.lww.com/greenjournal/abstract/2020/05001/period_poverty_and_the_menstrual_product_tax_in.234.aspx)$

This bill takes steps to address menstrual inequity by reducing health risks, alleviating the burden of period poverty, and thereby improving the contributions of our state's workforce. 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 for both health equity and economic good.

Thaddeus Pham (he/him)

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 6:38:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means,

I am in STRONG SUPPORT of SB3000 SD1. 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.

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 7:15:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Thank you Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Moriwaki for considering the written testimony. I strongly urge you to support SB3000, an effort to support menstruating people by increasing access to period products. By offering these products as essential needs items you are helping to eliminate period poverty.

Melissa Chong

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 7:21:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
M. Chong	Testifying for Zen Den Midwifery	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Moriwaki for considering this written testimony. I strongly support eliminating period poverty and increasing access to the much needed menstrual management products. This measure will help make this happen. I urge the WAM committee members to vote in support of SB 3000.

M. Chong,

Licensed Midwife, CPM.

Maui County

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 7:35:31 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Rzonca	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as no man needs menstrual products and if they do, they're using the wrong restroom. This is ridiculous

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 8:14:31 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leslie jaramillo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support women's menstrual products available in public restrooms

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 9:25:08 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charlotte Neemia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am actively using one of the products they distributed around my campus, UH West Oahu. The product is reusable pad panties. It sounded so weird to me too at first, but I love how they have various options on whether we are heavy or light on our periods. It saves me so much money to buy pads every 2 months best. The price for pads is so crazy and I'm trying to stay frugal here to save money for other items I might need for school. Ever since I received the products from them, I don't worry about the plastics disposal or the afterthoughts of disposing my old pads and wonering if it would make it into the ocean. It sounds disturbing to hear of periods but this organization has helped reduce costs in so many ways for my school and myself managing womanhood.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 9:48:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 10:22:54 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alice Abellanida	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I find it hard to believe that I'm actually having to address even such a piece of nonsense. I never thought I would live to see the day when people are collectively losing their minds. Men don't menstruate. Period. Oppose.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2024 10:42:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 1:22:35 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeff miller	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Ladies have their own. Men's rooms don't need ladies products. And only women who are born women should be in a women's room but trans folks are welcome to use the men's room free of worry! It's Hawaii we understand! But no to more \$ for anything! Fix the roads and get the Batu off the streets!

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 8:01:46 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Calvin Hara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Calvin Hara and I am in support of SB 3000. SB 3000 calls to action, the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

The need to be aware and sensitive to the needs of adult and young women in today's society is ever so import. 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.

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

Sincerely,

Calvin Hara

Honolulu, Hawaii

cmhara@comcast.net

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/25/2024 10:14:19 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carrie Anne Tilley Alexander	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a basic human right and should be provided for women in the state. Mahalo.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/25/2024 11:33:24 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I **OPPOSE** this Bill.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/25/2024 12:18:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ian Mccaulley	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This right here is so dumb and such a waste of money. Who comes up with these ideas?!

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 12:39:41 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karissa Rowe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Despite the cramps, the mess, the acne, and everything else that comes with having a period, there is a solidarity that exists between people that experience menstrual cycles. We get it. If you ever find yourself out and about and lacking a necessary product, you could ask a stranger and they would be more than happy to help. Unfortunately a variety of situations exist where people who have menstrual cycles don't have access to the products they need to remain sanitary and comfortable. It could be an accident, an irregular cycle, or it could be poverty, a lack of a home to keep tampons under the sink in the bathroom in. We deserve access to products that keep us clean. We deserve dignity. Pass this bill.

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 12:51:38 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this measure to make feminine hygene products available to females in government and university facilities. Not having easy access to such products can be embarassing and very disruptive. As a child of 11, I had a "bleed through" and was so embarassed 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 posibility. 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 contolled and males do not face the same monthly burden. Please support this legislation which can eliminate a barrier to well-being.

Mahalo

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 1:14:14 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lei-Anne Jones	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

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

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 2:20:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to require the department of accounting and general services to provide menstrual products free of charge in each covered restroom of each public building, including all libraries. The bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in all women and gender-neutral bathrooms. And absence of that it will also be placed in at least one men's restroom to ensure access for anyone who needs it. I support this because I have witnessed period Poverty firsthand not being able to afford menstrual products when needed, as well as not having a menstrual products on hand at the time of an unexpected menstrual cycle.

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

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 3:50:50 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Larry Duclayan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in Opposition of Hawaii Senate Bill SB3000

Statement of Position: This testimony is written to express strong opposition to **Senate Bill SB3000**, which pertains to requiring all state buildings to provide free menstrual products in restrooms, including men's rooms if no gender-neutral restroom is available. This bill is unnecessary, wasteful, and inappropriate.

Background Information: SB3000 aims to amend the Hawaii Revised Statutes to require all state buildings to provide free menstrual products, such as tampons and pads, in restrooms for the use of employees and the public. The bill also requires that if a state building does not have a gender-neutral restroom, the free menstrual products must be provided in both women's and men's restrooms. The bill claims that this measure is necessary to promote menstrual equity and dignity, and to accommodate transgender and nonbinary individuals who may need menstrual products. However, this bill is unnecessary, as there is no evidence of a widespread lack of access or affordability of menstrual products in Hawaii. It is also wasteful, as it would impose a significant cost on the state and the taxpayers, without any clear benefit or accountability. It is also inappropriate, as it would invade the privacy and comfort of restroom users, especially men, who do not need or want menstrual products in their restrooms.

Specific Arguments and Evidence:

1. Unnecessariness and Lack of Evidence:

- SB3000 is unnecessary, as there is no evidence of a widespread lack of access or affordability of menstrual products in Hawaii.
- Menstrual products are widely available and affordable in Hawaii, as they are sold in various stores, pharmacies, vending machines, and online platforms.
- o Menstrual products are also exempt from the general excise tax in Hawaii, making them more affordable for consumers1.
- Menstrual products are also provided by various organizations and programs that support low-income, homeless, or vulnerable individuals, such as the Hawaii Foodbank, the Hawaii Diaper Bank, the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and the Hawaii State Department of Health2345.
- SB3000 is unnecessary, as there is no evidence of a widespread lack of access or affordability of menstrual products in Hawaii, and therefore no need to mandate the provision of free menstrual products in all state buildings.

2. Wastefulness and Cost:

- SB3000 is wasteful, as it would impose a significant cost on the state and the taxpayers, without any clear benefit or accountability.
- SB3000 does not specify the source of funding for the provision of free menstrual products in all state buildings, nor does it provide any estimate of the cost or the demand for such products.
- SB3000 does not establish any criteria or standards for the quality, quantity, variety, or distribution of the free menstrual products, nor does it require any monitoring or evaluation of the effectiveness or impact of the provision of such products.
- SB3000 does not address the potential issues of misuse, abuse, theft, vandalism, or contamination of the free menstrual products, nor does it allocate any resources for the maintenance, sanitation, or disposal of such products.
- SB3000 is wasteful, as it would impose a significant cost on the state and the taxpayers, without any clear benefit or accountability, and without addressing the potential issues or challenges of the provision of free menstrual products in all state buildings.

3. Inappropriateness and Privacy:

- SB3000 is inappropriate, as it would invade the privacy and comfort of restroom users, especially men, who do not need or want menstrual products in their restrooms.
- SB3000 assumes that all transgender and nonbinary individuals who may need menstrual products would prefer to use men's restrooms, rather than women's or gender-neutral restrooms, which is not necessarily the case.
- o SB3000 disregards the preferences and feelings of men, who may not want to see or use menstrual products in their restrooms, or who may feel uncomfortable or embarrassed by the presence of such products.
- SB3000 also disregards the preferences and feelings of women, who may not want to share their menstrual products with men, or who may feel unsafe or violated by the possibility of men entering their restrooms to access such products.
- SB3000 is inappropriate, as it would invade the privacy and comfort of restroom users, especially men, who do not need or want menstrual products in their restrooms, and who may have legitimate concerns or objections to the provision of such products in both women's and men's restrooms.

Conclusion: This testimony urges the legislature to reject SB3000. This bill is unnecessary, wasteful, and inappropriate, as it would require all state buildings to provide free menstrual products in restrooms, including men's rooms if no gender-neutral restroom is available. This bill is unnecessary, as there is no evidence of a widespread lack of access or affordability of menstrual products in Hawaii. It is also wasteful, as it would impose a significant cost on the state and the taxpayers, without any clear benefit or accountability. It is also inappropriate, as it would invade the privacy and comfort of restroom users, especially men, who do not need or want menstrual products in their restrooms.

This testimony is written in opposition to this bill.

Mahalo,

Larry Duclayan

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 4:23:54 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lindsay Chambers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.



February 23, 2024

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am writing to submit my testimony in enthusiastic support of SB3000. I would like to highlight the exemplary efforts of DreamHouse 'Ewa Beach Public Charter School in providing free menstrual products to its students. By implementing this program, DreamHouse has demonstrated a profound commitment to addressing the needs of its students and ensuring they have access to essential resources without any financial barriers.

Here are some key points on our school has successfully implemented its free menstrual products program and why such initiatives are crucial:

- Promoting Health and Hygiene Access to menstrual products is a fundamental aspect of menstrual health and hygiene. By providing free products on campus, we ensure that students can manage their periods hygienically and without stress or embarrassment.
- Removing Financial Barriers For many students and their families, purchasing menstrual products can be a financial burden. By offering these products for free, schools alleviate this burden, ensuring that students can focus on their education without worrying about the cost of essential items.
- Supporting Gender Equity Menstrual products are a basic necessity for individuals who menstruate, regardless of gender identity. By providing these products for free, schools promote gender equity and inclusivity, recognizing that access to menstrual products is a universal need.
- Improving Academic Performance Lack of access to menstrual products can lead to absenteeism and disengagement from school activities. By ensuring that students have access to these products, schools support their attendance and overall academic performance.
- Fostering a Supportive Environment By openly providing menstrual products on campus, schools create a supportive environment where students feel valued and cared for. This fosters a sense of belonging and well-being among students, contributing to a positive school culture.

In conclusion, initiatives like SB3000 to provide free menstrual products in schools are essential for promoting the health, dignity, and academic success of students. I urge you to support this crucial legislation and ensure that all students in Hawaii have access to the menstrual products they need to thrive.

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

Amber P. Leon Guerrero

School Leader

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 5:41:31 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jamie Kapana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I'm writing testimony in support of bill SB3000. This bill will help those who need it without feeling shame or stigma. Let's help those afraid to speak on the subject but definitely feel the effects of it. Having products readily available for those in need will help normalize the topic of periods as well as help those in need.

Mahalo!

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 6:01:05 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kimi Palacio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

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

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/25/2024 6:48:36 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leigh Mamuad	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support bill SB3000

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/25/2024 7:01:38 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

With so many people struggling financially here why are we even wasting money and time on this!?

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 7:46:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peggy Regentine	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is stupid. I cant imaginea man ever wanting to have menstrual periods or cramps. So let the trans bring her own products. I truly cannot imagine a man wanting to be in the restroom at the same time with someone having to deal with bathroom period situations.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/25/2024 7:52:02 PM Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this legislation.

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 8:04:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ANTHONY M GAIRNESE	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. There is absolutly zero need to place womans menstrual products in a male restroom that will not be accessed by females. No biological female should be allowed to use the male restroom, and no biological male should be allowed to access the female restroom. This is a safety issue.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/25/2024 8:16:01 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB3000.

Thank you,

Teri Savaiinaea

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 8:19:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Breena Thompon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

Periods are something women and fem bodies are born with and we don't ask for, having free period products in public spaces allows for not only making periods something that isnt taboo but also letting folks know they are able to find something easily incase a period shows up randomly.

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

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 8:23:30 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vivek Pathela	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE WOKISM! There are only two genders in humans - male and female. Males never menstrual products. A Trans that has female bio organs can go to the women's bathroom, even if she looks like a guy. She can put a big sticker on her chest to identify herself as bio female.

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 8:42:42 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Oppose. It is unbelievable that we need to oppose funding for free menstrual products in men's bathrooms. Men do not menstruate, even if they're pretending to be women. You should not be using taxpayer dollars to support products for people when they're not truly needed.

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 8:56:57 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. If you want to supply menstral product to GIRLS and WOMEN it is one thing but to supply them to BOYS and MEN is unnecessary as they DO NOT menstruate, even if they think they do. It is a waste of my taxpayer dollars to supply unnecessary products to non-menstruating people who do not need them.

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 9:31:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 10:26:15 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
james wallace	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB3000. Just trash this useless bill. How did this most useless bill ever get to be put up for a vote? Put money in the MAUI people who got there houses burned by somebody, not by global warming.

Submitted on: 2/25/2024 11:47:24 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Korynn Grenert	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is an important bill that addresses period poverty. Please strongly consider supporting this bill, as it will bring greater equity to women and other non-binary individuals. Thank you.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 12:36:16 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

Please do not waste taxpayer funds for menstrual products in the men's restrooms.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 1:29:41 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Luis Ma	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill, because is bill is non sense and lunatic. The past 3 years the party that telling people "Trust the science!" Doing the most anti science thing. Plus should use the funding to help Maui Lahaina victims instead of fund this non sense.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 6:11:09 AM Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Louise Ho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 7:28:13 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tracy Gillard	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Menstral products are for FEMAILES, not males. If someone is a female and wants to use the mens bathroom, but needs a menstral product, they can go into the womens bathroom and get the menstral products. Keep womens products in the womens bathroom and they should be free and only free in the WOMANs bathroom.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 8:01:18 AM Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I Yvonne Alvarado Oppose to Bill SB3000 SD1

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 8:05:54 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Gouveia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Menstrual products are women's products and do NOT belong in men's restrooms. Men cannot menstruate, therefore there should be no reason to have any menstrual products in men's restrooms. This is a disgusting bill that should never have been made.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 8:24:13 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

The delusion you folks are trying to grow amoungst the youth is unforgivable. There are 2 genders, Male and Female.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 8:26:51 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tricia M. Matsukawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 8:39:40 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
julie schaus	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB 3000

youre lucky if there's even a working public toilet in Hawaii.

we definitely don't need to fund feminine products for the criminals to steal

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 8:41:18 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I Oppose this SB3000 Bill.

With so many problems here in Honolulu and statewide, you are wasting time on this ridiculous nonsense. Men cannot menstruate nor have babies. Anybody who thinks men can do this, are absolutely hands down wrong and should go back to school and learn basic 6th grade biology.

Thank you.

Noela von Wiegandt

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 8:42:49 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jenny Brown	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

I support this because this measure 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. 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 and libraries meeting basic needs, and promote greater menstrual equity in the State.

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

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 8:46:41 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vanessa McCowan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Young women, especially those who come from economically disadvantaged homes, are at risk disproportinally when it comes to hygiene. Unlike their male peers, they have the added issue of managing period hygiene when it comes to bathroom duties. By not providing these hyiene products, the state is sexually discriminating against our famale students when it comes to bathrooms.

There are arguments against providing these products, I'm sure. Arguments like "they will be stolen" or "they will be vandalized" - but can't the same be said for toilet paper provided? Or soap? Kids will do their worst until it becomes normalized. The sooner we can provide these products, the sooner everyone will consider it normal and it will no longer be an issue. Women do not deserve to miss out on school or other activities that their male peers have no problem attending just due to basic biological functions.

Our women can be supported, and it starts with making sure that they arent starting at a disadvantage simply due to biology.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 8:50:34 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 8:54:12 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 8:57:51 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Greg schaus	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Oppose sb 3000

absolutely not. If you're bleeding you can carry your own.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 9:08:03 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mark Masunaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose. This is utter nonsense. Cannot believe elected officials are even considering this ridiculous bill. Waste of tax money and resources . Whoever supports this bill has gone WOKE and should not be in office.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 9:25:10 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard D	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB3000.

Men don't menstruate. This bill needs to be amended.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 9:27:52 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sam schaus	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose sb3000

if you do this then you should also supply baby diapers as some adults need them for all the crap they spread

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 9:33:27 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deven English	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong opposition, give the menstrual products the wahine, men have no need for that in the bathroom. 2 genders, one needs it, the other doesn't.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 9:44:23 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Masunaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Have you lost your common sense? Men do not have periods! Waste of money and resources.

Please have integrity instead of pandering to wokeness. NO!! OPPOSE

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 10:11:29 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

February 26, 2024

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, 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.

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

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 10:19:10 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaitlynn Felipe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

I support this because 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, and prevent people from going to school or work.

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 and libraries meeting basic needs, and promote greater menstrual equity in the State.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Me ke aloha nui, Kaitlynn Felipe, MSW

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 10:50:12 AM Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pikake Choy Foo	Testifying for DOE Waimanalo School	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB3000

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 10:52:52 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kate Mewes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

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

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 11:35:12 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leigh Hicks	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 11:48:06 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

;	Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
	Erin Dunn	Testifying for Hawaii DOE - Kauai High School	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a female teacher at Kaua'i High School, I support this bill. In the past, I have provided feminine products to my students who have needed them. I often had boxes of a variety of products available. Recently, I have appreciated the products that have been placed because not only is it not out of my pocket, but it is why 3 of my students have improved attendance since they often stayed home when they had their Ma'i. This is a good program that needs to continue!

ThNk You

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 11:56:42 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Men don't menstruate! This is an absolutae waste of resources and just another attempt to push a sick ideology started by John Money and Alfred Kinsey who were sexual deviants and pedophiles who sexually abused children all in the name of "science".

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 12:04:52 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bella Kellerman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries. I got my period at ten years old. I had no idea what was happening and I had no access to period products. I had to walk around with a wad of toilet paper in my underwear for the entire day at school because I was so ashamed and confused and I had felt like I had just done the equivalent of soiling my pants. If I had access to a free pad in the bathroom maybe my experience with my first period wouldn't have been so nightmarish. It's time that we normalize periods and free period products just as we normalize defecation and urination. Imagine if you had to pay for toilet paper or you just had to bring your own roll of toilet paper around with you everywhere you went, the same goes with soap. This is basic hygiene for everyone with a period which happens to be around 1.8 billion people worldwide, the least we can do for our community and our people with periods is to provide free menstrual products.

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

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 12:26:57 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Abigail Udarbe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I say the ma'i movement is helpful to all women around and can help not only women but the children that will be women.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 12:34:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aysha Berry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Having a period is a natural part of a woman's body, and products to manage it are a necessity. However, obtaining menstrual products can be expensive and inconvenient. Imagine a woman who started their period during an important meeting but she didn't have any menstrual products on hand. If there was nothing in the bathrooms to help keep herself clean, then she would need to leave, find a tampon or pad, and possibly even a change of clothes. If everyone, men and women, had a MONTHLY period for YEARS of their lives, then maybe it would be as easily available as things such as toilet paper in public restrooms are.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 12:36:52 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Blair Finlayson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

As someone who menstruates, the idea of not having to worry about bringing period products with me all the time because I know I can get them in the bathrooms would be incredible and do a lot for my mental health. Please know that bills like that make a real difference to the lives of constituents like me who menstruate.

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

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 12:44:36 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Harper	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Research indicates that 86% of menstruators experience unexpected periods while in public.

This initiative aims to tackle menstrual inequity by:

- **Reducing Health Risks**: Ensuring access to menstrual products helps maintain hygiene and prevents health issues.
- Alleviating Period Poverty: Many menstruating individuals, including girls, women, and gender-diverse people, struggle to afford essential products like toilet paper and hand soap.
- **Preserving Dignity**: Access to free menstrual products protects the dignity of all menstruators.

By establishing broader availability of free menstrual products, we can achieve:

- **Inclusive Public Facilities**: Visitors to state buildings and libraries won't face barriers due to lack of access.
- **Equitable Access**: Everyone, regardless of economic status, can manage their periods with dignity.

Together, this initiative promotes greater menstrual equity within the State.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 12:59:21 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Renee Rabb	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Moriwaki, and Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB3000 by Senator Shimabukuro which provides free menstrual products in public buildings. Any person who needs menstrual supplies should be able to access them.

Just like supplies in schools, this is a good beginning.

Mahalo,

Renee Rabb

Hawaiian Paradise Park

Keaau, HI 96749

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 1:10:23 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nyla	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSED BILL SB3000

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 1:14:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dominic	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE THIS BILL SB3000

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 1:31:27 PM Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Regina Blanchard-Walker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this measure.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 1:53:10 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mareitta (Rita) Aponte	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am in support of SB3000 that requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide menstrual products at no cost in each covered restroom of each public building, including all libraries. The bill requires access for all menstruating people by providing products in all women's and gender neutral restrooms.

I support this because I have heard from teachers, family, and friends that all know someone that was not able to afford period products. This is something I never thought of growing up. We always had the money and were able to purchase products as needed. The fact that young girls are putting toilet paper, leaves, and newspaper down there is sad and should not happen.

Mahalo for your time.

Mareitta Aponte

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 1:57:23 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Danika Schultz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a female student in hawaii I have greatly benefited from the availability of femine products at my school. My family is not struggling finacialy but, on several occasions I have needed to take my bag of products to make room in my backpack and when I get to school I ended up needing my products. Thankfuly I had was able to get products from the bathroom. Other girls who are not as privlieged have to rely on the school's products or they just don't come to school. I believe that everyone who need femine products schould have acess to them.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 2:10:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jo Archibald	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I firmly believe that period products should be as commonly distributed as toilet paper as they are essential for good hygiene and wellbeing. This is especially important in public areas such as schools, parks, libraries.

As a young girl in school, at the public library and at University, I recall being embarassed because my supplies would run out--even when I had thought I had planned ahead. There were times when I would stuff wads of toilet paper in my underwear, trying not to let it fall out while rushing to catch the bus, and then hoping when I got up, that I didn't leave a spot on the seat... Forgive me for being graphic but I want you to understand that the shame, the fear of blood dripping down your legs as you walk, the spot on your seat when you get up from sitting on the bus or a chair is very real.

Today I am old enough to qualify for senior discounts and yet those memories make me shudder. When your period comes, it comes. It is not a choice. And unlike pee or poo, you can't just try to squeeze and hold it in. It's like water through your hands.

Please fund and place period products in public bathrooms.

Mahalo,

Jo

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 2:24:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Trujillo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members, Hello, my name is Jacob Trujillo from the island of Kauai and I fully support SB3000 which requests the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries. Although I do not menstruate, I have many friends that do and they have stated how menstrual products are expensive and offering this kind of service gives them the opportunity to utilize these products without having to spend thousands of dollars. Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of this bill.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 2:31:21 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sophia Badua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a young female, I would like to have menstrual products in our local higschools. This would be very beneficial for females. We would not have to worry about buying pads and tampons nor the expensive cost of it.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 2:34:33 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gavin Ushio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

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

Sincerly, Gavin Ushio

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 2:35:24 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cairee Quinones	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill because menstrual products are expensive in this economy and people might have a harder time to afford it and they shouldn't be punished with bad bodily hygiene when there could be products provided.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 2:37:50 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
BJ Tristan Bersamira	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I would like to support menstrual products in public restrooms, schools, and libraries. I say this because being as someone who cares a lot for everyone's life and health and safety, these products should be provided. It is not fair for women to be treated wrong when they need help. It is not fair and right for women to be treated this way and should be treated better.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 3:32:18 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

As a HIDOE public school teacher, I've seen the benefit of having free period products on public school campuses. Period poverty is not only reserved for students; we know it's an issue that impacts all menstruators.

Research shows that 86% of menstruators get their periods unexpectedly while in public. When I got my period at a conference last year at the San Francisco Convention Center, I panicked. I was presenting a session in a few minutes and I didn't think I'd have time to get to a drug store and back. Yet when I went into the restroom, I found that period products were available for free. It was such a relief to know I wouldn't bleed through my clothes while presenting to educators from around the country.

Having free period products in public spaces is good people-centered policy. Please support this bill. Mahalo for reading, and for the opportunity to testify.

Sarah "Mili" Milianta-Laffin, Teacher

Ilima Intermediate School

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 3:46:49 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ka'inoa Kea	Testifying for Dream House Ewa Beach Public Charter School Coach	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB3000 to make Menstrual Products available in common spaces to ensure each person who is biologically impacted by a monthly cycle has access to products that will lessen the sense of Overwhelm (mentally, psychologically, and physical) throughout the day. By continuing to have Menstrual Products available to ALL, the Legislature is projecting its continued support for Wahine and Reproductive Rights!

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 4:35:59 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hulu Kaopio-Camvel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

I would like to submit my testimony as a supporter of this SB3000 Bill. I firmly support this bill because in my own experiences there have been more than a few times where I have encountered being out running errands or just simply away from home and unexpectedly having my period start or even have packed menstrual products while out and have a heavy flow unexpectedly & not having enough to keep from having an embarrassing accident between the time of incident & get home to clean up leakage. I can honestly admit there were a few times where i didnt even have any money at the momet to obtain these menstrual products and was faced with having to use a public restroom's toilet paper and or papertowels to clean up and put into place to hold me over. Those were some humiliating moments were i felt so frustrated to even be a female and wish i didnt have to experience it at such a public place and/or time. These experiences are something that I know other females have gone thru too and/or they can relate to these situations just described above and the embarrassment it has especially when we are shamed on as being a female altogether. It honestly does affect our confidence, our mental health & as well as physically as others have experienced extreme situations dealing with an unpredictable process that our female bodies go thru. So, having free public access to menstrual products is very much needed for EVERY FEMALE because it's to keep our biological fluids contained, clean & our bodies properly protected from health issues arising with not being hygenically clean and sanitized. PLEASE I ASK THAT YOU PASS THIS SB3000 BILL for ALL WOMEN! It is a REQUIREMENT SUPPORT that is needed for something that happens to females naturally. THANK YOU ALL & GOD BLESS 🙏 🙏

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

-Hulu Kaopio-Camvel

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 4:51:59 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cyd L. Hoffeld	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, 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 restrooms of each covered public building. This bill would also require the provision of menstrual 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 restroom.

I understand that some people may not understand the importance of having menstrual products in men's restrooms and may even by offended that tax dollars are being used to place them in there. However, we are talking about providing additional locations to place resources in for husbands, fathers, brothers, uncles, friends and helpful strangers to assist those who menstrate and who may not have access to period products while in public buildings. Having menstrual products stocked or signage placed in men's restrooms will provide another location for people to help their partners, mothers, daughters, and others who menstruate.

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

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 5:35:10 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doris Matsunaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Save Medicaid Hawaii is in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 6:36:12 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Esjhalee C Chung Ching Man	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support of the SB3000, I agree that the government at no cost for the women on Kauai. Moreso a global problem, many women around the world are suffering financially, restricting them from maintaining their womanhood/overall health. Every woman should receive the utmost care in her hygiene despite her financial situation. An example from Kauai High School, many girls never had the proper menstrual products on hand; either forced to ask around or leave school for personal reasons. Being a "sensitive" topic, many of these girls refrain from bringing up the menstrual cycle. Not only will this bill help females receive the care they need without unnecessary judgment but it will also benefit the ones who financially struggle from trying to maintain their womanhood. Although a sensitive topic, passing this bill will relieve the women today who struggle with attaining menstrual products. Let's not put our women on the spot for something that happens naturally. Let's be the change that makes women comfortable with their natural processes.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 6:48:07 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I OPPOSE THIS BILL!!

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 7:08:13 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cindy R Ajimine	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONGLY OPPOSE with request to defer this session until it can be properly thought out, written & complete. AS WRITTEN:

- 1. Does not include that specific needs have been identified. Private organizations would not implement a project such as this without first showing the valid need, locations, annual costs now and projected, breakdown by various islands, etc.
- 2. Assigns responsibility to DAGS, which oversees building leases/maintenance, vehicle acquisitions, & computer systems. No expertise in health products.
- 3. There are better alternatives to assist our citizens with the cost of health products over a 40-year period. E.g. a general excise tax exemption for medical and health products would benefit more people. Or a "Period Poverty" acquisition process.
- 4. No inclusion for menstrual waste bags and bins? Do we wait for plumbing issues that will significantly increase the budget to repair given the multiple locations that this will be implemented? Already overbudget?
- 5. Focus is on the low income, incarcerated, gender confused, and state workers? State workers will directly benefit? The majority of residents are having their tax dollars spent & will not benefit despite being the ones that responsibly struggle to work & pay taxes?

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 7:16:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

My name is Emi Shigekane, a freshman in college from Kailua. I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

I support this bill because as a menstruator, I know what it means to not have access to period products when I need them. I urge you, even if you don't menstruate, to sympathize with half of Hawai'i's population. Passing this bill would be the state government providing its citizens with basic hygenic necessities. The people of Hawai'i deserve menstrual products free of charge everywhere, but *especially* in state buildings, where you all have direct control. Think of your daughters, wives, nieces, mothers, friends, and coworkers; they deserve to know that they are provided for, by their government, in a menstrual emergency: a natural, human, hygenic, and uncontrollable emergency.

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

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 7:23:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
JOHN L PANG	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE with request to defer this session until it can be properly thought out, written & complete. AS WRITTEN:

- 1. Assigns responsibility to DAGS, which oversees building leases/maintenance, vehicle acquisitions, & computer systems. No expertise in health products.
- 2. There are better alternatives to assist our citizens with the cost of health products over a 40-year period. E.g. a general excise tax exemption for medical and health products would benefit more people. Or a "Period Poverty" acquisition process.
- 3. Does not include that specific needs have been identified. Private organizations would not implement a project such as this without first showing the valid need, locations, annual costs now and projected, breakdown by various islands, etc.
- 4. No inclusion for menstrual waste bags and bins? Do we wait for plumbing issues that will significantly increase the budget to repair given the multiple locations that this will be implemented?
- 5. Focus is on the low income, incarcerated, gender confused, and state workers? State workers will directly benefit? The majority of residents are having their tax dollars spent & will not benefit despite being the ones that responsibly struggle to work & pay taxes?

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 7:24:39 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Veronica Simao	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE with request to defer this session until it can be properly thought out, written & complete. AS WRITTEN:

- 1. Assigns responsibility to DAGS, which oversees building leases/maintenance, vehicle acquisitions, & computer systems. No expertise in health products.
- 2. There are better alternatives to assist our citizens with the cost of health products over a 40-year period. E.g. a general excise tax exemption for medical and health products would benefit more people. Or a "Period Poverty" acquisition process.
- 3. Does not include that specific needs have been identified. Private organizations would not implement a project such as this without first showing the valid need, locations, annual costs now and projected, breakdown by various islands, etc.
- 4. No inclusion for menstrual waste bags and bins? Do we wait for plumbing issues that will significantly increase the budget to repair given the multiple locations that this will be implemented?
- 5. Focus is on the low income, incarcerated, gender confused, and state workers? State workers will directly benefit? The majority of residents are having their tax dollars spent & will not benefit despite being the ones that responsibly struggle to work & pay taxes?

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 7:48:14 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sonia Blackiston	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

People who menstruate need to have access to period products. 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.

I strongly urge you to support this bill.

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

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 8:01:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rose Davis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I sincerely testify that I am opposed to SB 3000. Relating to Menstrual Products being distributed by a department that has no expertise in health care products. This will require far more unseen design and operational expenses than what is implied. It seems this is a not a well thought-out proposal. Please do not burden this department or community with this ill prepared project.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 8:04:10 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am in OPPOSITION of SB3000 regarding menstrual products. We are in a position where State spending should be reduced. There is not a need for menstrual products in men's bathrooms. There were no menstrual products in women's bathrooms in the past. And if there were vending machines for menstrual products in women's bathrooms, the machines were vandalized, not working, or empty, and certainly not free. Worse yet, they were used to plug up toilets which would cause more money for the State to repair. Do what the rest of us did. If you need menstrual products, carry spare ones, or ask a friend. Be responsible. Please do not use State monies, of which we have little of, or do not have at all, to fund menstrual products in men's bathrooms. Please vote NO.

I oppose SB3000 SD1 with request to defer this session until it can be properly thought out, written & complete. As this bill is written: Does not include that specific needs have been identified. Private organizations would not implement a project such as this without first showing the valid need, locations, annual costs now and projected, breakdown by various islands, etc.

Cynthia Dorflinger

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 9:55:57 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carina	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please consider opposing SB 3000 SD 1 due to its harm caused by unchecked areas of cocnern such as:

- 1. Assigns responsibility to DAGS, which oversees building leases/maintenance, vehicle acquisitions, & computer systems. No expertise in health products.
- 2. 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. Or "Period Poverty" acquisition process.
- 3. Does not include the specific needs having been identified. Private organizations would not implement a project such as this without first showing the valid need, locations, annual costs now and projected, breakdown by various islands, etc.
- 4. No inclusion for menstrual waste bags and bins? Do we wait for plumbing issues that will significantly increase the budget to repair given the multiple locations that this will be implemented?
- 5. Focus is on the low income, incarcerated, gender confused, and state workers? State workers will directly benefit? The majority of residents are having their tax dollars spent & not benefit despite being the ones that responsibly work & pay taxes?

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/26/2024 10:53:22 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chad Ohira	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 11:12:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carol K Kamai	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB3000 HD1. Lawmakers should not be wasting our money because of your cookie cutter bill writing like the other mainland states and what they are trying to do also. Little time and thought has been placed on the costs short-term and long term and how few people would be using these products. Why are we even providing these products any longer. For decades no menstrual products are visable, or accesible. I am a soman and I know going into our public restrooms. Most dispensers have been tornnoff the walls and broken in to pieces. All of the public bathrooms I have used in the past 4 decades has had no toilet paper or paper towels and no menstrual products for females. Locals always carry their own products (toilet paper. Wipes, paper towels and feminine products because we know already. We as a state can't even do the bare minimum now what makes you think you can now with a haphazard bill like this. Think this through. Why would you cater to a population now when woman have always needed these products in the past and you have done nothing to provide for those with the anatomy needed for these products. I oppose this bill. Why do you keep failing the born female?

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 3:15:59 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenny Wusstig	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is completely wreckless and utterly ridiculous. This bill will do nothing more than show gender inequality rather than equality. While I have no hatred nor disrespect towards those who are gender netural, this bill will only violate bathroom and privacy laws that are in place to protect the personal rights and privacy of using the bathroom based on their gender.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/27/2024 6:16:55 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support free menstrual products

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 6:17:34 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Liz Raphael	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill. As someone who has started their period at inopportune times many many times throughout my life, I would sincerely appreciate the support just as public restrooms are available for general bodily functions. Thank you for your considerations.

I support this because I believe this measure 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, and prevent people from going to school or work.

Thank you and Aloha.

Liz Raphael

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 7:23:24 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shanda Lewis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

Now with so few people carrying cash, if I unexpectedly begin menstruating, I would be at a loss and this bill would protect me from embarrassment, discomfort and ruining my clothes. It seems likely that most teenage persons would be even less likely to be prepared at all times, especially when they are most likely to have unexpected menses given biology (the first 4-5 years of menstruating is often unpredictable.)

Trans men are even less likely to carry to carry supplies, so this would further protect a further marginalized community.

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.

Shanda Lewis, Nurse Practitioner

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 7:35:00 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Angelina Woo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha committee members, my name is Angelina Woo, I am a student, and I am in support of SB3000. Having free and easily accessible menstrual products around Hawai'i simply shows how the government plans to support women as we cannot control our periods and often find ourselves searching hastily for a pad so we do not bleed through our clothes and make everyone else uncomfortable. Ever since my school began providing free menstrual products I have felt more secure in partaking in activities and worried less about how my period may hinder my ability to participate in class as one bleed-through results in a girl going home. By approving this bill, you can help women feel more secure all around Hawai'i which will, in turn, give women more confidence to take advantage of more opportunities. Mahalo nui loa and have a good day!

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 7:37:42 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ashley Galacgac	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass SB 3000. Period poverty disproportionately impacts historically oppressed communities—women, girls, and nonbinary menstruating people. I urge government leaders to be part of the solution to build a Hawai'i that centers community care, dignity, and equity for all.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 3000.

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 7:50:46 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
olena marsh	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Alohs committee members, as a woman who has struggled with the need of always providing/receiving this product I believe this bill needs to be affirmed to maintain/achieve a clean and healthy environment for all women.

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 7:52:59 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aulani Germano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e committee members,

I am in full support. I believe as a woman periods were always a struggle and products that some forget or can't afford are always needed which is why I am in full support.

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 7:54:39 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anisa Vanterpool	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

My name is Anisa Vanterpool and I strongly support SB3000. As a young woman, having free menstrual products in public bathrooms and libraries would have helped me immensely when my family was struggling with money. Not only would it help those in my position, but it would also aid in the struggles of the women who are not in a position to buy personal health products. From those who cannot afford it to those who maybe just forgot a pad at home, this bill benefits every woman in the state.

Mahalo

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/27/2024 8:17:46 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

	Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
;	Sheila Nakamasu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill!

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/27/2024 8:22:40 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynell Yonemura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of bill SB3000.

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 8:33:03 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Arielle Adenew	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE with request to defer this session until it can be properly thought out, written & complete. AS WRITTEN:

- 1. Assigns responsibility to DAGS, which oversees building leases/maintenance, vehicle acquisitions, & computer systems. No expertise in health products.
- 2. There are better alternatives to assist our citizens with the cost of health products over a 40-year period. E.g. a general excise tax exemption for medical and health products would benefit more people. Or a "Period Poverty" acquisition process.
- 3. Does not include that specific needs have been identified. Private organizations would not implement a project such as this without first showing the valid need, locations, annual costs now and projected, breakdown by various islands, etc.
- 4. No inclusion for menstrual waste bags and bins? Do we wait for plumbing issues that will significantly increase the budget to repair given the multiple locations that this will be implemented?



To: Committee on Ways and Means

Hearing Date/Time:

Re: Testimony in Support of SB 3000 SD1

From: Heather Lusk, Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and Members of the committee:

The Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center (HHHRC) **supports SB 3000 SD1** which would require DAGS to provide menstrual products at no cost in restrooms in public buildings across the islands. This is very important for the dignity and respect for all persons who menstruate – not having access to supplies for our folks that are houseless or struggling with poverty can make a huge difference.

HHHRC's mission is to reduce harm, promote health, create wellness and fight stigma in Hawaii and the Pacific. We focus our efforts on those disproportionately affected by social determinants of health, including but not limited to: people living with and/or affected by HIV, hepatitis, substance use, and the transgender, LGBQ and the Native Hawaiian communities.

Our homeless outreach teams regularly get requests for supplies and this bill would make them accessible in public spaces so that our houseless community will have constant access. Thank you for supporting this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Heather Lusk, Executive Director, Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 9:21:10 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Angeli Tolosa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

My name is Angeli Tolosa and I am a junior at Kaua'i High School. I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries. I support SB3000 because I believe that women shouldn't have to pay for something we all experience. I also think that more than one size of period products should be provided in public restrooms, because women have different flow rates, and "one size" does not "fit all". The quality of the period products should also be higher, as I've heard some girls had to soak their tampon in water then shove it in just to avoid the uncomfortability of the cardboard applicators.

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

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 9:24:33 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this bill. As a former teacher and as someone still working in education on the Leeward coast, I see the need for a response to menstrual inequity and can see the positive impact access to menstrual products can give.

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 9:39:32 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Edwards	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE with request to defer this session until it can be properly thought out, written & complete. AS WRITTEN:

- 1. Assigns responsibility to DAGS, which oversees building leases/maintenance, vehicle acquisitions, & computer systems. No expertise in health products.
- 2. There are better alternatives to assist our citizens with the cost of health products over a 40-year period. E.g. a general excise tax exemption for medical and health products would benefit more people. Or a "Period Poverty" acquisition process.
- 3. Does not include that specific needs have been identified. Private organizations would not implement a project such as this without first showing the valid need, locations, annual costs now and projected, breakdown by various islands, etc.
- 4. No inclusion for menstrual waste bags and bins? Do we wait for plumbing issues that will significantly increase the budget to repair given the multiple locations that this will be implemented?
- 5. Focus is on the low income, incarcerated, gender confused, and state workers? State workers will directly benefit? The majority of residents are having their tax dollars spent & will not benefit despite being the ones that responsibly struggle to work & pay taxes?

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 9:56:24 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha committee members!

My name is Kiana Waikiki and I stand in strong affirmation of Senate Bill 3000. I support this bill because I want to feel secure. For people who don't have regulated menstruation, being prepared all the time can be difficult and to have free menstrual products available makes me feel more secure. An immense amount of money goes into paying for menstrual products for women everywhere but not everyone can afford it. Free menstrual products will also help give women who cannot afford proper products the feeling of security from being hygienic and supported.

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 9:56:59 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barilyne Sakamoto	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

- 1. Assigns responsibility to DAGS, which oversees building leases/maintenance, vehicle acquisitions, & computer systems. No expertise in health products.
- 2. 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. Or "Period Poverty" acquisition process.
- 3. Does not include the specific needs having been identified. Private organizations would not implement a project such as this without first showing the valid need, locations, annual costs now and projected, breakdown by various islands, etc.
- 4. No inclusion for menstrual waste bags and bins? Do we wait for plumbing issues that will significantly increase the budget to repair given the multiple locations that this will be implemented?
- 5. Focus is on the low income, incarcerated, gender confused, and state workers? State workers will directly benefit? The majority of residents are having their tax dollars spent & not benefit despite being the ones that responsibly work & pay taxes?

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 9:59:14 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emmeline Macanas	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE BILL SB3000!!! There is no need to put free feminine products in make restrooms period! Men do not menstruate. You can definitely put them in the women's restrooms but not in the men's restrooms. If this is a problem and there are budget cuts, then allocate the money elsewhere and people can bring their own feminine products.

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 10:00:31 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Griffin Kelley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a teacher and have seen first-hand how the availability of free menstrual products creates a more equitable learning environment for students. It is unfortunate that for some, proper hygiene may come at too high a cost.

Additionally, providing menstrual products in public spaces, such as public schools, serves to destignatize menstruation. Taking steps to remove shame or stigma around menstruation opens doors for young people to have conversations about their health and wellbeing with the trusted adults in their lives. This is a relatively small thing that can have bountiful health, emotional, and relationship outcomes for girls in Hawai'i.

I urge you all to support SB3000.

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 10:01:18 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

I support this because I have believe that low income women face financial barriers to purchasing period products, and all women have been surprised by unexpected vaginal bleeding. Teenage women in particular feel shame when this happens.

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.

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/27/2024 10:55:33 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Support our women and daughters. If you have a daughter or granddaughter, how can you stand by?

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/27/2024 11:09:16 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
james pirtle	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I do not consent

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 11:28:35 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 3000.

Mahalo for all you do to care for our communities. Thank you for your consideration.

-Trina Orimoto

To: Hawaii State Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, February 28, 2024, 10:01am

Place: Hawaii State Capitol, CR 211 & Videoconference

Re: Judith Ann Armstrong is in support of SB3000 Menstrual Products

Dear Chair Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Sharon Y. Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

I, Judith Ann Armstrong, am in support of SB3000 relating to Menstrual Products.

I am testifying in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

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.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB3000.

Sincerely,

Judith Ann Armstrong

<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/27/2024 12:57:36 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Sı	ıbmitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
,	Гегі Heede	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is common sense.

Let's pass it and keep on going.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teri Heede



Submitted on: 2/27/2024 3:11:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

 Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ann S Freed	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

I am in support of SB3000 to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to provide period products at no cost in state buildings under their jurisdiction that are open to the public and contain public restrooms, including all libraries.

I would have thought this was a no-brainer. But my years as an advocate have taught me that the outrageous is always possible.

Consider the facts:

- Research shows that 86% of menstruators get their periods unexpectedly while in public.
- This measure 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, and prevent people from going to
 school or work.
- 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 and libraries meeting basic needs, and promote greater menstrual equity in the
 State.

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

Ann S. Freed, Human Rights Advocate

Mililani, HI



<u>SB-3000-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/28/2024 4:21:02 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2024 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rosemarie Vailisale	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I DO NOT SUPPORT BILL.