
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO STRENGTHEN MENSTRUAL
HEALTH EDUCATION INITIATIVES AND TO ADOPT A COMPREHENSIVE
MENSTRUAL CYCLE CURRICULUM.

1 WHEREAS, section 302A-452, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
2 requires the Department of Education to provide free menstrual
3 products on all public school campuses, including the campuses
4 of public charter schools; and

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6 WHEREAS, both menstruating and non-menstruating students
7 should be aware of, and educated about, the natural bodily
8 processes of the menstrual cycle; and

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10 WHEREAS, menstrual health education provides an opportunity
11 to eradicate stigmas; empower informed health decisions; and
12 ensure equal access to, and understanding of, menstrual
13 products; and

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15 WHEREAS, inconsistent menstrual health education continues
16 to stifle progress toward achieving period equity, and some
17 students lack confidence in managing their menstrual cycle and
18 its symptoms, even with free products; and

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20 WHEREAS, menstrual health education is largely absent from
21 or offered inconsistently in United States schools, with only
22 about 25.5 percent of state standards mentioning it; and

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24 WHEREAS, thirteen states have taken the important step of
25 including menstrual health education in their schools' sexual
26 health education standards, recognizing that these courses
27 encourage students to be more inclusive of their menstruating
28 classmates; and

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1 WHEREAS, data from the pre-survey results of the 2022
2 Hoohanohano Initiative pilot program indicated that eight
3 percent of school faculty surveyed felt that the period
4 education offered in schools was adequate, while fifty percent
5 of students said it was not; and

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7 WHEREAS, the 2021 Understanding Period Poverty report
8 indicated that nearly half, specifically forty-eight percent, of
9 respondents received little or no information about their
10 periods before their first period started; and

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12 WHEREAS, in 2024, California passed the Know Your Period
13 Act (Assembly Bill No. 2229), requiring menstrual health
14 education to be included within sexual health standards; and

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16 WHEREAS, before the adoption of Assembly Bill No. 2229,
17 California students were "learning more about the anatomy of
18 frogs" than their own menstrual cycles; now, therefore,

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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
21 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
22 of 2026, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education
23 is urged to take immediate action to strengthen menstrual health
24 education initiatives in the State's schools; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
27 urged to adopt a comprehensible menstrual health education
28 curriculum that:

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30 (1) Includes the four pillars of menstrual dignity:

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32 (A) Privacy: Menstruating students should be offered
33 space and autonomy, and guaranteed personal
34 safety;

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36 (B) Inclusivity: Menstrual health education programs
37 should be culturally responsive and
38 gender-affirming;

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40 (C) Access: Menstrual health education programs
41 should be multilingual and accessible for
42 students of all abilities, and should offer



1 options and choices for accessing the materials;
2 and

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4 (D) Education: The program should be positive, and
5 not fear- or shame-based and should include
6 education on menstrual health and the use of
7 menstrual products;

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9 (2) Includes skills-based content on comprehending
10 concepts related to health promotion, analyzing
11 influences, accessing information, communication,
12 decision-making, goal setting, healthy behaviors, and
13 advocacy;

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15 (3) Is respectful toward people of all races, genders,
16 sexual orientations, ethnic backgrounds, and cultural
17 backgrounds;

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19 (4) Includes the topics of hygiene, stigmas, and health
20 challenges; and incorporates materials beyond those on
21 the general biological processes of the menstrual
22 cycle; and

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24 (5) Is age-appropriate and provides defined goals for
25 students in grades that spans from the third grade to
26 fifth grade, sixth grade to eighth grade, and ninth
27 grade to twelfth grade; and

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, for elementary school
30 students, the menstrual health education curriculum should:

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32 (1) Include instruction on menstrual dignity;

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34 (2) Require teachers to show hygiene products and to use
35 anatomically correct diagrams;

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37 (3) Require schools to have menstruation-positive,
38 age-appropriate children's books available in the
39 school's library;

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41 (4) Integrate teaching the standards designed to help
42 students understand:



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(A) The menstrual cycle's purpose as a biological process within the menstruating body; and

(B) Culturally relevant views and practices related to the menstrual cycle, including Native Hawaiian views and cultural practices related to the menstrual cycle, along with related Western views and practices; and

(5) Help students feel comfortable with the use of menstrual products, as age-appropriate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, for middle and intermediate school students, the menstrual health education program should:

(1) Include instruction on increasing menstrual dignity by having guest speakers from local public health organizations discuss resources on menstrual health;

(2) Incorporate established standards and use appropriate educational materials, including worksheets, diagrams, and articles;

(3) Integrate teaching standards designated to help students understand:

(A) The menstrual cycle's purpose as a biological process within a menstruating body;

(B) Culturally relevant views and practices related to the menstrual cycle, including Native Hawaiian views and cultural practices related to the menstrual cycle, along with related Western views and practices;

(C) Common myths regarding menstrual cycle's role in the reproductive system;

(D) The existence and impacts of period poverty, including its effects on physical and mental health; and



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2 (E) How to manage menstruation-related pain;
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4 (4) Help students feel comfortable with the use of
5 menstrual products, as age-appropriate; and
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7 (5) Emphasize that students must not stigmatize the
8 menstrual cycle; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, for high school students, the
11 menstrual health education program should:

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13 (1) Further increase menstrual dignity and use
14 well-established coursework;
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16 (2) Feature appropriate educational materials and guest
17 speakers;
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19 (3) Integrate the standards applicable to students in
20 middle and intermediate school, as well as the
21 additional standards requiring students to be able to:
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23 (A) Identify various reasons and health conditions
24 that may make a menstrual cycle "abnormal," and
25 to take the steps necessary to address those
26 health conditions when encountered; and
27
28 (B) Manage menstruation-related pain; and
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30 (4) Include comprehensible and in-depth translations of
31 all menstrual education materials for use by
32 non-English speakers of English as a second language
33 speakers; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
36 requested to submit a report on its progress in implementing
37 this resolution, including any findings, recommendations, and
38 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty
39 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
42 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,



1 Chairperson of the Board of Education, and Superintendent of
2 Education.

