

MAR 16 2026

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# SENATE 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

9  
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

14  
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

19  
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

23  
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

29  
30          WHEREAS, data from the pre-survey results of the 2022  
31 Hoohanohano Initiative pilot program indicated that eight  
32 percent of school faculty surveyed felt that the period



1 education offered in schools was adequate, while fifty percent  
2 of students said it was not; and

3

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

8

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

12

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

16

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

23

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

27

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

29

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

33

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

37

38 (C) Access: Menstrual health education programs  
39 should be multilingual and accessible for  
40 students of all abilities, and should offer  
41 options and choices for accessing the materials;  
42 and



- 1
- 2 (D) Education: The program should be positive, and
- 3 not fear- or shame-based and should include
- 4 education on menstrual health and the use of
- 5 menstrual products;
- 6
- 7 (2) Includes content on health promotion, analyzing
- 8 influences, accessing information, communication,
- 9 decision-making, goal setting, healthy behaviors, and
- 10 advocacy;
- 11
- 12 (3) Is respectful toward people of all races, genders,
- 13 sexual orientations, ethnic backgrounds, and cultural
- 14 backgrounds;
- 15
- 16 (4) Includes the topics of hygiene, stigmas, and health
- 17 challenges; and incorporates materials beyond those on
- 18 the general biological processes of the menstrual
- 19 cycle; and
- 20
- 21 (5) Is age-appropriate and provides defined goals for
- 22 students in grades 5, 8, and 12; and
- 23

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

- 26
- 27 (1) Include instruction on menstrual dignity;
- 28
- 29 (2) Require teachers to show hygiene products and to use
- 30 anatomically correct diagrams;
- 31
- 32 (3) Require schools to have menstruation-positive,
- 33 age-appropriate children's books available in the
- 34 school's library;
- 35
- 36 (4) Integrate teaching the standards designed to help
- 37 students understand:
- 38
- 39 (A) The menstrual cycle's purpose as a biological
- 40 process within the menstruating body;
- 41



1 (B) Native Hawaiian views and cultural practices  
2 related to the menstrual cycle, along with  
3 related Western views and practices; and  
4

5 (5) Help students feel comfortable with the use of  
6 menstrual products, as age-appropriate; and  
7

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

10 (1) Include instruction on increasing menstrual dignity by  
11 having guest speakers from local public health  
12 organizations discuss resources on menstrual health;  
13  
14

15 (2) Incorporate established standards and use appropriate  
16 educational materials, including worksheets, diagrams,  
17 and articles;  
18

19 (3) Integrate teaching standards designated to help  
20 students understand:  
21

22 (A) The menstrual cycle's purpose as a biological  
23 process within a menstruating body;  
24

25 (B) Native Hawaiian views and cultural practices  
26 related to the menstrual cycle, along with  
27 related Western views and practices;  
28

29 (C) Common myths regarding menstrual cycle's role in  
30 the reproductive system; and  
31

32 (D) The existence and impacts of period poverty,  
33 including its effects on physical and mental  
34 health;  
35

36 (4) Help students feel comfortable with the use of  
37 menstrual products, as age-appropriate; and  
38

39 (5) Emphasize that students must not stigmatize the  
40 menstrual cycle; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, for high school students, the  
2 menstrual health education program should:

- 3
- 4 (1) Further increase menstrual dignity and use  
5 well-established coursework;
- 6
- 7 (2) Feature appropriate educational materials and guest  
8 speakers;
- 9
- 10 (3) Integrate the standards applicable to students in  
11 middle school, as well as the additional standards  
12 requiring students to be able to:
- 13
- 14 (A) Identify various reasons and health conditions  
15 that may make a menstrual cycle "abnormal," and  
16 to take the steps necessary to address those  
17 health conditions when encountered; and
- 18
- 19 (B) Manage menstruation-related pain; and
- 20
- 21 (4) Include comprehensible and in-depth translations of  
22 all menstrual education materials for use by  
23 non-English speakers of English as a second language  
24 speakers; and  
25

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
27 requested to submit a report on its progress in implementing  
28 this measure, including any findings, recommendations, and  
29 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty  
30 days before the convening of the Regular Session of 2027; and  
31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,  
34 Superintendent of Education, and Chairperson of the Board of  
35 Education.  
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37  
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OFFERED BY: *M. B. M.*

