



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 310** HLS 24RS 726
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 7, 2024	4:30 PM	Author: FREEMAN
Dept./Agy.: EDUCATION		
Subject: Free menstrual products in accessible locations in public schools		Analyst: Julie Silva

SCHOOLS OR INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Requires public schools to provide free menstrual products in easily accessible locations

Proposed legislation requires each public school governing authority, including charter schools, to make menstrual products available in easily accessible locations, at no cost to students, in each school year for which the legislature appropriates funds for such purpose.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

There will be an increase in SGF expenditures to provide funding to local school districts and charter schools for the provision of menstrual products at no cost to students; however, specific costs are indeterminable. Costs variation is dependent on the method used to store menstrual products, the rate by which products are used, and the number of boxes or dispensers purchased by each school. While some school districts may keep menstrual products available for students, it is unknown how many schools currently provide them in easily accessible areas. **Proposed legislation is only effective in school years for which the legislature appropriates funds for its purpose.**

Proposed legislation does not stipulate where or how menstrual products should be made available, which significantly impacts estimated costs. For example, a small countertop box could be procured for a minimal cost. A wall mounted dispenser, with a capacity for 17 tampons and 8 sanitary napkins, can be purchased for around \$100, though many options are higher. A 500-count case of tampons packaged for dispensers can be purchased for approximately \$90, and a 250-count case of sanitary napkins can be purchased for approximately \$50; however, prices will vary by brand and supplier. Wholesale purchase prices may be lower. Total costs are anticipated to be greatest in the first year due to one-time costs associated with the procurement of dispensers and display boxes, and will vary by school.

The following estimate is provided for illustrative purposes, and assumes schools opt to use a free, wall-mounted dispenser to comply with the provisions in proposed law. One dispenser with a capacity of 17 tampons and 8 sanitary napkins filled once daily for 180 school days requires approximately 3,060 tampons and 1,440 sanitary napkins, this would cost approximately \$838 per dispenser, per year. The number of dispensers will vary by school. Menstruation begins, on average, by age 12, when students are typically in the the sixth grade. Approximately 850 public schools in Louisiana serve students in sixth grade or higher. Providing 850 schools with one dispenser each would cost, at a minimum, \$85,000 for the first year. Filling each of these dispensers once per day would cost \$712,300 per year. Actual costs will vary depending upon the number of schools providing products, the number of products utilized at each school, and the price at which products are purchased.

Using another methodology for cost estimation, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) reports there are currently 171,201 female students enrolled in the 6th through 12th grades in Louisiana public schools. The advocacy group "Free the Tampon" estimates the cost to provide tampons and sanitary napkins is \$5 to \$7, per student, per year. This would result in a total estimated cost between \$856,005 to \$1.2 M, for menstrual products alone. The same storage cost estimates used above can also be applied to this estimate.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer