

2021 -- H 5083

LC000654

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS

Introduced By: Representatives McEntee, Caldwell, Ruggiero, Kazarian, and Felix

Date Introduced: January 22, 2021

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 16-21 of the General Laws entitled "Health and Safety of Pupils" is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **16-21-37. Availability of feminine hygiene products.**

4 (a) By the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year, all public schools maintaining any
5 combination of classes from grade six (6) through grade twelve (12), inclusive, shall make feminine
6 hygiene products available in the school as follows:

7 (1) Feminine products shall be available in all gender-neutral bathrooms and any bathroom
8 designated for females;

9 (2) Feminine products shall be available at no cost to students.

10 (b) For the purposes of this section, "feminine hygiene products" includes tampons and
11 sanitary napkins.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 13-5 of the General Laws entitled "Station Houses for Women" is
13 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

14 **13-5-11. Availability of feminine hygiene products.**

15 (a) Beginning January 1, 2022, feminine hygiene products shall be made available to all
16 female inmates at no cost to the inmate.

17 (b) For the purposes of this section, "feminine hygiene products" includes tampons and
18 sanitary napkins.

1 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T
RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS

1 This act would provide that feminine hygiene products be provided in all public schools
2 and prisons.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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