

MAR 02 2023

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO SUPPORT ENDING MENSTRUAL  
INEQUITY BY PROVIDING MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS TO ALL PERSONS,  
FREE OF CHARGE, IN ALL UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII RESTROOMS.

1           WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii is statutorily prohibited  
2 from depriving the privileges of the University to a person on  
3 the basis of sex; and

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5           WHEREAS, eighty percent of menstruating students in the  
6 State experience difficulties accessing menstrual products; and

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8           WHEREAS, menstruating students unable to access menstrual  
9 products face a significant barrier to education that  
10 biologically male students do not, as a lack of access to  
11 menstrual products can limit full educational participation and  
12 negatively impact a student's access to learning; and

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14           WHEREAS, "period poverty", or the inability to access  
15 menstrual products, disproportionately affects menstruating  
16 students, members of low-income households, individuals who  
17 identify as nonbinary or transgender, and many other groups of  
18 individuals; and

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20           WHEREAS, according to a 2021 study conducted by the Hawaii  
21 State Commission on the Status of Women and Mai Movement Hawaii,  
22 lack of access to menstrual products contributes to higher rates  
23 of school absenteeism in the State, with forty-two percent of  
24 respondents missing class or leaving school early due to lack of  
25 access to menstrual products, and some missing as many as ten  
26 days per academic year due to a lack of access to menstrual  
27 products; and

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29           WHEREAS, chronic absenteeism is one of the most powerful  
30 indicators of student success or failure; and

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# S.C.R. NO. 27

1           WHEREAS, a midyear assessment of Mai Movement Hawaii's 2021  
2 Hoohanohano Initiative, a pilot project that distributes  
3 menstrual products to students at certain schools on the islands  
4 of Oahu, Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai, found convincing evidence that  
5 free menstrual products have positive educational impacts and  
6 decreased the number of students who missed at least one school  
7 day due to lack of access to menstrual products by more than  
8 fifty percent; and  
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10           WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii should uphold educational  
11 and gender equity by providing free menstrual products to all  
12 persons utilizing University restrooms; now, therefore,  
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14           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
15 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the  
16 House of Representatives concurring, that the University of  
17 Hawaii is requested to support ending menstrual inequity by  
18 providing menstrual products to all persons, free of charge, in  
19 all University of Hawaii restrooms, including those of the  
20 community colleges; and  
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22           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
23 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
24 University of Hawaii.  
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26  
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OFFERED BY:

