



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education and Technology
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By

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HB 2177 – RELATING TO MENSTRUAL EQUITY

Chair Perruso, Vice Chair Kapela, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports the intent of HB 2177 and writes to provide information regarding the UH plans to provide menstrual products on all its campuses.

As reported in our response to Senate Resolution 23, SD1 (SR 23) regarding providing free menstrual products, all University of Hawai'i campuses have implemented various methods to provide free products in restrooms and other high-traffic locations on their campuses. Following the compilation and review of information about the current status of providing free menstrual products on every campus and how current efforts are funded, **the University of Hawai'i systemwide leadership committed to ensure the provision of menstrual products free of charge to students at all of its university, community college, and education center campuses.** As a result of our current efforts and future commitment, we do not believe this bill is necessary.

While UH further implements this action, free products are already provided in a number of locations across every campus:

- UH Maui College has placed a basket of tampons and pads *in all* women's and men's restrooms on campus. Baskets are refilled on average every two weeks (or as needed) by operations and maintenance.
- Leeward Community College has menstrual products available *in all* women's, men's and gender-neutral restrooms at the Pu'uloa (Pearl City) campus and in the women's and gender-neutral restrooms at the Wai'anae Moku campus with plans to expand to men's restrooms in Spring 2024. Supplies are checked and refilled on a regular basis. The campus also distributes menstrual products out of their food pantry, Hānai'iā Leeward, and out of their Student Health Center.
- UH Mānoa provides menstrual products within the restrooms in the Campus Center (CC) as well as in the Food Vault Hawai'i Pantry, the Queen Lili'uokalani Center restrooms, and a few other women's and men's restrooms in buildings across campus.

- UH Hilo has 30 dispensers installed in women's, men's and gender-neutral restrooms around campus. The supply of products is housed and restocked by Auxiliary Services but also supported by the Women's Resource Center and the student government, UH Hilo Student Association (UHHSA).
- UH West O'ahu has dispensers in several women's restrooms on campus. The dispensers are refilled on a weekly basis.
- Windward Community College has supplies available in all female and gender-neutral bathrooms on campus.
- Hawai'i Community College distributes menstrual products out of their Kahuaola Basic Needs Center and two of the most utilized restrooms on campus.
- Kaua'i Community College has menstrual products available in their Food Pantry, and Pantry staff also regularly refill dispensers in several women and gender-neutral bathrooms on campus.
- Kapi'olani Community College has seven restrooms, 6 women's and 1 gender-neutral, on campus that each dispense 50 pads and 50 tampons. They are currently using about 180 products (tampons and pads) per week. All bins are maintained and refilled weekly by the students of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. The campus also distributes menstrual products from the Kamokila Student Center and the food pantry when available.
- Honolulu Community College distributes menstrual products in several women's, men's and gender-neutral restrooms and other specific program areas such as Hulili Ke Kukui, Student Life & Development, Early Childcare Education, Academic Counseling, TRIO, Career Services, and Academic Support. As of Spring 2024, the campus is working to provide more distribution points in various restrooms and offices.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.