

HOUSE No. 1959

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jay D. Livingstone and Christine P. Barber

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to increase access to disposable menstrual products in prisons, homeless shelters, and public schools.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Jay D. Livingstone</i>	<i>8th Suffolk</i>
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>
<i>Paul Brodeur</i>	<i>32nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Daniel Cahill</i>	<i>10th Essex</i>
<i>Tackey Chan</i>	<i>2nd Norfolk</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Daniel R. Cullinane</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Daniel M. Donahue</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>
<i>Paul J. Donato</i>	<i>35th Middlesex</i>

<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>
<i>Lori A. Ehrlich</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Dylan A. Fernandes</i>	<i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>
<i>Carole A. Fiola</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carlos Gonzalez</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>
<i>Tami L. Gouveia</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Stephan Hay</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>
<i>Kate Hogan</i>	<i>3rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Kevin G. Honan</i>	<i>17th Suffolk</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Adrian C. Madaro</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>
<i>Paul W. Mark</i>	<i>2nd Berkshire</i>
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>
<i>Alice Hanlon Peisch</i>	<i>14th Norfolk</i>
<i>Smitty Pignatelli</i>	<i>4th Berkshire</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>
<i>Maria Duaine Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>
<i>Jon Santiago</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>

<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>
<i>Chynah Tyler</i>	<i>7th Suffolk</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>
<i>Tommy Vitolo</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Bud L. Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>

HOUSE No. 1959

By Representatives Livingstone of Boston and Barber of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1959) of Jay D. Livingstone and others relative to access to disposable menstrual products in prisons, homeless shelters, and public schools. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act to increase access to disposable menstrual products in prisons, homeless shelters, and public schools.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 126 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 21 the following section:-

3 Section 21A. As used in this chapter, the following words shall have the following
4 meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

5 “Menstruating individuals,” any person who menstruates.

6 “Disposable menstrual products,” products used by menstruating individuals including,
7 but not limited to, sanitary napkins, tampons, and underwear liners.

8 “Chief administrator,” the superintendent of a state prison facility under the jurisdiction
9 of the department of correction, the sheriff or special sheriff in charge of a jail, house of
10 correction or regional lock-up facility, the chief of police of a city or town, the colonel of the

11 state police, or the director of any other facility used for the detention of persons arrested and
12 held in custody or serving a sentence.

13 Section 21B. Disposable menstrual products shall be provided at no cost to individuals
14 who menstruate and who are housed in state prison facilities and county jails and houses of
15 correction used for the general confinement of individuals and in any other state or local facility
16 where menstruating individuals are detained or confined by law enforcement agencies.

17 The chief administrator of a state prison, jail, house of correction or other holding facility
18 shall work to ensure that such products shall be available in a convenient manner that does not
19 stigmatize any persons seeking such products.

20 SECTION 2. Chapter 121F is hereby amended by inserting after section 3 the following
21 section:-

22 Section 3A. As used in this chapter, the following words shall have the following
23 meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

24 “Menstruating individuals,” any person who menstruates.

25 “Disposable menstrual products,” products used by menstruating individuals including,
26 but not limited to, sanitary napkins, tampons, and underwear liners.

27 Section 3B. Any provider of temporary housing assistance, which shall include but not be
28 limited to, a family shelter, a shelter for adults, a hotel used for emergency shelter, an emergency
29 apartment, a domestic violence shelter, a runaway and homeless youth shelter, or a safe house for
30 refugees, shall be required to provide disposable menstrual products, including but not limited to,
31 sanitary napkins, tampons, and panty liners, at no cost to menstruating individuals. Such products

32 shall be available in a convenient manner that does not stigmatize any persons seeking such
33 products.

34 SECTION 3. Chapter 71 is hereby amended by adding, after section 3, the following new
35 section:-

36 Section 3A. As used in this chapter, the following words shall have the following
37 meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:-

38 “Menstruating individuals,” any person who menstruates.

39 “Disposable menstrual products,” products used by menstruating individuals including,
40 but not limited to, sanitary napkins, tampons, and underwear liners.

41 All schools serving students in any grade from grade six through grade twelve shall
42 provide disposable menstrual products in all restrooms of such school building or buildings for
43 people who menstruate. Such products shall be provided at no charge to students. Such products
44 shall be available in a convenient manner that does not stigmatize any persons seeking such
45 products.