

ASSEMBLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[Second Reprint] **SENATE, No. 1221**

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 11, 2023

The Assembly Women and Children Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 1221 (2R).

As amended by the committee, this bill requires school districts to ensure that students in schools educating students in grades six through 12, or any combination thereof, have direct access to menstrual products in at least 50 percent of female and gender-neutral school bathrooms, if applicable, free of charge. The bill requires that the Department of Education, in conjunction with the Department of Health, periodically review and assess whether the provision of free menstrual products meets the needs of menstruating students. If necessary, the department will make recommendations regarding the expansion of access to menstrual products to students in grades below grade six.

Any costs incurred by a school district in complying with the provisions of this bill will be borne by the State. For purposes of this bill, “menstrual products” mean tampons and sanitary napkins for use in connection with the menstrual cycle.

As amended and reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 1221 (2R) is identical to Assembly Bill No. 1349 which was amended and reported by the committee on this date.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to stipulate that menstrual products are to be made available in at least 50 percent of female and gender-neutral bathrooms, if applicable.