

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6118

To amend the Peace Corps Act to ensure access to menstrual hygiene products for Peace Corps volunteers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 5, 2020

Ms. MENG (for herself, Mr. COHEN, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. BEYER, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. CASE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Peace Corps Act to ensure access to menstrual hygiene products for Peace Corps volunteers, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Menstrual Equity in
5 the Peace Corps Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ACCESS TO MENSTRUAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS FOR**
2 **PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS.**

3 Section 5A of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2504a)
4 is amended—

5 (1) by transferring subsection (e) (relating to
6 antimalarial drugs) to appear immediately after sub-
7 section (b) and redesignating such transferred sub-
8 section as the first subsection (c);

9 (2) in such first subsection (c), as so redesign-
10 nated and transferred, by striking “The Director”
11 and inserting the following:

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director”;

13 (3) in the second subsection (c) (relating to cer-
14 tain training), by—

15 (A) redesignating such second subsection
16 (c) as paragraph (2); and

17 (B) moving such paragraph (2) two ems to
18 the right;

19 (4) by redesignating subsection (d) (relating to
20 review and evaluation) as subsection (e); and

21 (5) by inserting before such redesignated sub-
22 section (e) the following new subsection:

23 “(d) ACCESS TO MENSTRUAL HYGIENE PROD-
24 UCTS.—

25 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
26 after the date of the enactment of this subsection,

1 the Director of the Peace Corps shall establish a
2 comprehensive policy to ensure Peace Corps volun-
3 teers who require menstrual hygiene products are
4 able to access such products, either by increasing
5 stipends for such volunteers to purchase such prod-
6 ucts or providing such volunteers with such products
7 in the generic product types selected by such volun-
8 teer as their preferences.

9 “(2) CONSIDERATION.—The policy required
10 under paragraph (1) shall take into consideration
11 the availability of menstrual hygiene products for
12 purchase locally, the price of such products, and cul-
13 tural norms regarding menstruation.

14 “(3) COST.—If stipends are increased pursuant
15 to the policy required under paragraph (1), the Di-
16 rector of the Peace Corps shall ensure that such in-
17 crease covers fully the cost of menstrual hygiene
18 products purchased by Peace Corps volunteers de-
19 scribed in such paragraph.”.

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