

HB20-1131

MENSTRUAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS IN SCHOOLS GRANT PROGRAM

Reps Titone and Caraveo and Sen. Winter

WHAT THE BILL DOES:

- Program grants awards to public schools or school districts in order to provide menstrual hygiene products *in bathrooms at no expense to students*.
- Grants are specifically for the purchase of product dispensers, waste receptacles, and menstrual hygiene products for the dispensers.
- Grants are prioritized to Title 1 high schools and middle schools.
- Grants are subject to available appropriations. Gifts, grants, or donations from private or public sources can be accepted.

WHO THE BILL WILL SERVE

- 126 Title I schools have been identified
 - Denver Public Schools and Jefferson County Public Schools are working on their own plans to provide free products in bathrooms
- With a total \$50,000 appropriation granted in blocks of \$1,000, this should serve:
 - 50 Title I schools with
 - At least 2 dispensing machines (costing \$273 ea)
 - Accessories and installation
 - Products for around 1 calendar year (*costs below)

OTHER STATES PROVIDING FREE PRODUCTS IN SCHOOLS

- Providing: IL, TN, GA, VA, NY, NJ, NH, CA
- Considering: WI, WA

PROOF THAT IT WORKS

After New York City implemented a mandate for its schools, in the **first year** they saw:

- **Absenteeism decreased 2.4%**
- Usage averaged 1.4 total products consumed per female student per month (factoring in both tampon and sanitary pad use) indicating **no misuse of product**
- All indicators showed that the mandate effectively addressed the need for product

*Cost of a case of pads is \$39/250 units and cost of a case of tampons is \$90/500 units