



HB 415: removing requirements that schools provide menstrual products in restrooms.
Committee: House Education Policy and Administration
Date: January 22, 2025
Position: OPPOSE

HB 415 repeals a commonsense New Hampshire law that has been in the books since 2019. This law simply requires New Hampshire public middle and high schools to provide menstrual products in restrooms to students.

Menstrual equity is a basic issue that solves a problem for our most marginalized students. Students living in poverty are most impacted by the lack of access to menstrual products – and nationally, [1 in 4 students who menstruate experienced period poverty in 2023](#). No student in New Hampshire should have to miss school because they cannot afford these products. These products are not a luxury, they are a basic health care necessity and cannot be foregone or substituted easily. According to a [2024 poll](#), 76% of Americans support free access to period products in bathrooms in public schools.

Over the last few years, states have been working at expanding access to menstrual products; additionally, multiple federal acts have been introduced. As of 2024, [30 states](#) have passed legislation exempting menstrual products from state and local taxes, [21 states](#) (and the District of Colombia) have laws requiring free menstrual products in school, [25 states](#) provide free menstrual products to incarcerated women, and [3 states](#) require they be available at no cost in homeless shelters.

States around the country are expanding access to menstrual products – New Hampshire should focus its efforts on supporting students' educational experiences, not adding unnecessary barriers to their school days.

WE URGE A VOTE OF “INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE” ON HB 415

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Planned Parenthood of Northern New England (PPNNE) is the largest provider of reproductive and sexual health care across the State of New Hampshire. We serve New Hampshire residents through 6 health centers in Claremont, Derry, Exeter, Keene, Manchester and White River Junction, VT. Last year we saw more than 10,000 patients at these sites. PPNNE was named a 2021 Guardian of Excellence Award winner by Press Ganey, the national leader in health care consumer and workforce engagement. Press Ganey recognizes PPNNE as a top-performing health care organization, achieving the 95th percentile or above for performance in patient experience, out of more than 20,000 medical practices. Planned Parenthood New Hampshire Action Fund (PPNHAF) is an independent, nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization formed as the advocacy and political arm of Planned Parenthood of Northern New England in New Hampshire. The Action Fund engages in educational and electoral activity, including voter education, grassroots organizing, and legislative advocacy.