

Date of Hearing: Wednesday, March 9, 2022

To: Members of the House Education Policy Committee

From: Ainsley Nuytten, Loretto MN

Chair Davnie and members of the committee, my name is Ainsley Nuytten and I am a senior at Delano Senior High School. I provide this statement in support of HF 2750, which would provide access to menstrual products in Minnesota school bathrooms.

At Delano, the only place menstruators have access to free period products is at the front of our school, minutes away from any bathrooms. I have gotten my period unexpectedly at school many times and have asked my school nurse for products. But since there is none in the bathrooms it is embarrassing to walk to the nurse while free-bleeding.

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To: Members of the House Education Policy Committee

From:

Amanda Adams
Eagan High School

Chair Davnie and members of the committee, my name is Amanda Adams and I am a social studies teacher at Eagan High School in Eagan Minnesota. I also have the privilege of advising our Women's Empowerment group. I provide this statement in support of HF 2750, which would provide access to menstrual products in Minnesota school

This is an issue that we have successfully lobbied for in our school that was extended into a program across the entirety of ISD 196. A group of motivated young women created a presentation that was made to our executive board and was able to secure a grant from our district foundation to support these efforts. Free menstrual products are now available at all schools in our district. The feedback I have received from my students and staff has been a mix of relief and gratitude. It is essential for those that menstruate to be able to have equitable access to these products. This not only normalizes this conversation this but helps to support student success and minimize barriers.

Date of Hearing: Monday, March 9, 2022

To: Members of the House Education Policy Committee

From: Gina Kristufek
Arden Hills MN

Chair Davnie and members of the committee, my name is Gina Kristufek and I am a lifelong Minnesota resident. I provide this statement in support of HF 2750, which would provide access to menstrual products in Minnesota school bathrooms.

I'm writing in support of HF 2750 Menstrual Product Access.

I believe that Minnesota's schools should have menstrual products available for our students in grades 4-12. School lavatories should be equipped with the basics: menstrual products, toilet paper, water, soap, mirrors, urinals and toilets.

I've worked at Roseville Area High School for nine years and can attest that the unavailability of menstrual products keeps some of our most vulnerable students at home a few days each month. We need these young minds in school every day. Please support funding for this basic hygiene need.

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To: Members of the House Education Policy Committee
From: Jeffrey Her
Saint Paul, MN

Chair Davnie and members of the committee, my name is Jeffrey Her and I am a Minnesota public school student. I provide this statement in support of HF 2750, which would provide access to menstrual products in Minnesota school bathrooms.

My name is Jeffrey Her and I'm writing to express my strong support for HF 2750. Putting menstruation products in bathrooms will enable students to not have to worry about having it on hand. Allowing them to perform better at school. Menstruation cycles happen at very random times. Could be in the middle of the night or middle of class, making it accessible to those who need them would be a great idea.

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To: Members of the House Education Policy Committee
From: Jessica Edelheit, St. Louis Park Middle School

Chair Davnie and members of the committee, my name is Jessica Edelheit and I am a tenured teacher at St. Louis Park Middle School. I provide this statement in support of HF 2750, which would provide access to menstrual products in Minnesota school bathrooms.

We can all agree that students staying in class is a priority, as that's where the growth and learning happens. When females are menstruating they often need to go to the nurse to get supplies before they use the restroom. This results in students being out of class for 10-15 minutes.

To have period products available in bathrooms would help get our menstruating students back to class in a timely manner. Some teachers pay out of pocket to keep a supply of products in our classrooms to avoid this and teachers are already supplying pencils, notebooks, books, and more. In addition, it's time we got over hiding pads in our pockets and being embarrassed about our natural selves. Today's girls should be able to rewrite the history of what it means to have their period at school.

Student voice is important and we need to honor their voices and needs by supplying them with period products in an easily accessible place that is not dependent on their teachers' paychecks.

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To: Members of the House Education Policy Committee

From: Katie Wegman, Delano, MN

Chair Davnie and members of the committee, my name is Katie Wegman and I am a senior at Delano High School. I provide this statement in support of HF 2750, which would provide access to menstrual products in Minnesota school bathrooms.

There is clearly a problem that females of all ages are dealing with, yet there is a rather simple solution that is not being acted on to help the issue. I can't count the amount of times that I have gotten my period in school without having a menstrual product in my possession. It's embarrassing to have to bleed, walking around the school, asking other girls if they have any menstrual products in order to stop your embarrassment and flow.

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To: Members of the House Education Policy Committee

From: Larissa Gust, Delano, MN 55328

Chair Davnie and members of the committee, my name is Larissa Gust and I am a senior at Delano Senior High School. I provide this statement in support of HF 2750, which would provide access to menstrual products in Minnesota school bathrooms.

The only place I am able to get free products is in the nurse's office at the front of my school. When I was in 7th grade I got my period for the first time. I was not expecting it and didn't really know what to do, so I asked my teacher if I could visit the nurses office. I was on the complete opposite end of the school and had to walk with toilet paper for a pad. This affected my ability to fully engage in school because I was worried about how many pads I would need that day, where I could get them that was close to my classes, and how I was going to catch up with the math lesson I missed because I had to walk all the way across the school for a pad.

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To: Members of the House Education Policy Committee

From: Maddie Johnson
Crystal, MN

Chair Davnie and members of the committee,

My name is Maddie Johnson and I want to express my strong support for HF 2750. Making menstrual products available is incredibly important in supporting both the physical and mental wellbeing of students. As a menstruating person, I remember the stress of being in middle

school and high school and worrying about having enough menstrual products stocked in my backpack. I actually bled through my clothes on one or two occasions at school because I had unexpectedly run out of products and was too embarrassed to ask anyone for a pad or tampon. I hope that HF 2750 can help to destigmatize menstrual products by ensuring they are available to anyone who needs them, which ultimately sets up students for success.

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To: Members of the House Education Policy Committee

From: Michelle Vohs
Minneapolis, MN

Chair Davnie and members of the committee, I provide this statement in support of HF 2750, which would provide access to menstrual products in Minnesota school bathrooms.

My name is Michelle Vohs (she/her) and I am writing to express my strong support for HF 2750, as I believe all people deserve proper health care products, including menstrual products. As a young person who menstruates, I remember feeling embarrassed and uncomfortable asking friends for a pad or tampon. There is a lot of stigma around menstruation products, and high school was already awkward enough to begin with. Not everyone has access to these products, so ensuring access to menstruation products where our youth spend a majority of their day is important to me. Youth and young people are our future, and we want to give them tools for success.

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To: Members of the House Education Policy Committee

From: Molly Kovacs
Fridley MN

Chair Davnie and members of the committee, my name is Molly Kovacs. I provide this statement in support of HF 2750, which would provide access to menstrual products in Minnesota school bathrooms.

I strongly support HF 2750 providing menstruation products in MN schools. I remember struggling to find time between classes to run to the bathroom and make it to my next class on time. We currently have them at my place of employment and they are very beneficial on those days where I am not prepared. I know everyone in the office appreciates them!

Date of Hearing: Wednesday, March 9, 2022
To: Members of the House Education Policy Committee
From: Nora Snyder, Richfield MN

Chair Davnie and members of the committee, my name is Nora Snyder and I am a 7th grader at Upper Mississippi Academy in St. Paul. I provide this statement in support of HF 2750, which would provide access to menstrual products in Minnesota school bathrooms.

Most middle schoolers are getting their first period, and they don't know when it's going to happen. They don't want to walk all the way back to a classroom or counselors office when they realize they are bleeding. And if classrooms have a bowl of pads or tampons by the door, people don't want to go there because that's awkward when you're a kid. I had a friend who was bleeding their pants and there were no tampons in the bathrooms, so they had to walk all the way to the office. Sometimes I forget to bring a tampon to the bathroom, so I'm just like, what do I do?

Some kids don't have the ability to buy good pads, so they try to use toilet paper. If we put tampons in there, they don't have to buy it. Also our school put them in the unisex bathrooms – the administration was worried that boys would ruin it. It has been weeks and there have been no incidents of boys destroying tampons or throwing them around.

Thanks for your attention and consideration.

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To: Members of the House Education Policy Committee
From: Robin Phillips, St Louis Park, MN

Chair Davnie and members of the committee, my name is Robin Phillips and I am the executive director of The Advocates for Human Rights, headquartered in Minneapolis. I provide this statement in support of HF 2750, which would provide access to menstrual products in Minnesota school bathrooms.

Equal access to education and health are fundamental human rights. Recent data indicate that nearly one in five girls has missed school because of lack of access to menstrual products. Removing this barrier to full access to education is a relatively small effort that will have a big impact.

Date of Hearing: Wednesday, March 9, 2022
To: Members of the House Education Finance Committee
From: Taubie Sanders
Golden Valley, MN

Chair Davnie and members of the committee, my name is Taubie Sanders and I am a senior at Hopkins High School. I provide this statement in support of HF 2750, which would provide access to menstrual products in Minnesota school bathrooms.

Putting free period products in bathrooms will enable all menstruating students to feel comfortable and focus on school. I, and many of my friends, have experienced the embarrassment and discomfort that comes with not having a pad or tampon when you need it and it disrupts your day making learning difficult. All menstruators deserve to be able to have their basic needs met at school.

Date of Hearing: Wednesday, March 9
To: Members of the House Education Finance Committee

From: Unitas Vang
Cottage Grove, MN

Chair Davnie and members of the committee,

My name is Unitas Vang and I am a Hmong-American first year at Macalester College. I am writing this letter in strong support of HF 2750 in order to support students who experience the menstruation cycle and the side effects and symptoms that accompany it. This is especially important for those growing up in lower financial classes and communities like the one I grew up in and free and public access to period products in bathrooms is a necessary accommodation.