

Hello Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Thomsen, and the rest of the Senate Education Committee,

My name is Lillian Boothe and I am a freshman studying communications at Oregon State University.

I am here to ask you to join Oregon students in supporting the amendment to SB 1522 to provide free menstrual products in residence hall bathrooms.

Lack of access to menstrual hygiene products results in physical health risks, negative social and psychological effects, and educational decline. Providing menstrual products in residence halls would allow students with a menstrual cycle to access necessity products without shame or stigma and would relieve financial stress.

In my experience, in more instances than one I have faced some sort of struggle regarding my period in my short time at Oregon State. I do not have a car here on campus, and simply can not afford to spend upwards of \$13 a month on period products. This is only for the tampons, this does not include the amount of pants, underwear, or bed sheets that have been ruined due to not having immediate access to menstrual products. While this does not seem like a lot of money, I am paying for my own housing, tuition, and meal plan.

Overall, this would better my experience on campus because I will always have the security of knowing where I can access menstrual products if I need them. There are already regulations put in place that soap and toilet paper are provided, so why is this any different? The stigma surrounding menstruation is declining, and I feel that providing menstrual products is an easy step for our university, it is well within the budget. So many people would benefit from this, I am just one of the over 15,000 female students here at OSU.

Passing this bill is a step in the right direction for gender equity on college campuses & ensuring students' basic needs are met. Please remember my story when you vote on this bill, and please join me in supporting SB 1522.

Thank you for your time,
Lillian Boothe