



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 318		DATE: 2/23/2021
COMMITTEE: Corrections and Public Institutions		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/23/2021 3:15 PM
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I am in Full Support of this Bill. These shall be Free with no Fees. I would like to see an Amendment that various brands and options are offered as to not create a toxicity or infection issue. This is a real and serious issue in the women State Prisions. Please take this Bill seriously and finally do some thing about fixing the problem.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CANDANCE WESSON		PHONE NUMBER: 816-227-6020	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: THE HELP(KC)		TITLE: FOUNDER/DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 31 W. 31ST ST.			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64108
EMAIL: candance@thehelpkc.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/22/2021 10:29 PM	

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February 22, 2021
The Honorable Andrew McDaniel
Chair, House Corrections and Public Institutions
Committee
201 West Capitol Avenue, Room 314
Jefferson City, MO 65101
RE: SUPPORT HB 318
(DeGroot): Dignity for Incarcerated Women
Dear Chairman McDaniel, On behalf of The Help(KC) we write in strong support of Rep Bruce DeGroot's HB 318. The bill will improve the health and dignity of women in Missouri's jails and prisons. It draws upon similar bills that other states have passed including Georgia and Louisiana. The Help(KC) is a nonprofit organization in Missouri that offers reentry support to formerly incarcerated/convicted women. With women being the fastest growing fragment of the United States prison population, institutions providing enough menstrual hygiene products are imperative. Having to beg for female hygiene supplies can be dehumanizing, especially when supplies are rationed out by male officers. Providing menstrual resources to institutions where women are housed only make sense. Today, Missouri incarcerates 176 women per 100,000 women residents, which is well above the national rate and below nearly every other country in the world. Between 1989 and 2015, the rate of women incarcerated in the state has more than doubled. Since 2019 Missouri's Department of Corrections has provided free products to women as a matter of policy. HB 318 will formalize the Department of Corrections' policy in statute. While some Missouri jails also provide free products for women, not all do. HB 318 will ensure that all women held in local jails will be provided free of charge these basic healthcare products. We respectfully request that you and your committee vote "Due Pass" on this important bill. Respectfully,
Candance Wesson
The Help(KC)



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CHERYL ADELSTEIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-442-3872	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL		TITLE: DEPUTY DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 12 MILLSTONE CAMPUS DRIVE			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63146
EMAIL: cadelstein@jcrctl.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/22/2021 1:18 PM	

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The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), guided by Jewish values, advocates, educates, collaborates, and mobilizes action on issues important to the Jewish community, 60,000 strong in St. Louis. We are committed to pursuing religious tolerance, civic discourse, and social justice in St. Louis and beyond. The Old Testament is filled with many rules and laws about economics and justice. In Deuteronomy 15:4 it states "there will be no poor among you, however, because God will surely bless you in the land the God is giving you," but then goes on to say in Deuteronomy 15:7 "if there is a poor man among you..then you are not to harden your heart or shut your hand from your poor brother. Instead you are to open your hand ..and freely loan him whatever he needs." HB 318 would require the Department of Corrections to ensure that tampons and sanitary napkins are available for free to offenders while they are confined in any of the Department's correctional centers and make the same requirements applicable to sheriff's and other jailers. The vast majority of women in jails and prisons are indigent and, while incarcerated, lack the resources to purchase adequate-quality products in sufficient quantity to manage their periods. Providing free, adequate-quality feminine hygiene products, including both pads and tampons, to women in Missouri jails and prisons is a health and dignity issue. When incarcerated women are required to purchase their own products or are given poor-quality products, women make their own products and put their health at risk. Many correctional institutions in Missouri and across the U.S. already provide free products to women in their custody. In 2019, the Missouri Department of Corrections adopted a policy of providing tampons as well as better pads in the state's two prisons for women. Several local jails, including jails in Saline County, St. Louis County, and St. Louis City, provide free pads and tampons as a matter of policy or law. Due to the recently passed federal legislation on criminal justice reform known as the First Step Act, facilities run by the Federal Bureau of Prisons also provide women inmates with free high-quality pads and tampons. As commanded in Deuteronomy, we must provide a person what he or she needs to maintain basic health and dignity. We encourage you to support HB 318.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: ELIZABETH WEISS		PHONE NUMBER: 202-641-0041
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI APPLESEED		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 100 NORTH TUCKER BLVD, ROOM 840		
CITY: ST. LOUIS	STATE: MO	ZIP: 63101
EMAIL: lweiss@appleseednetwork.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/22/2021 12:12 PM

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I am the Executive Director of Missouri Appleseed. Missouri Appleseed is a St. Louis-based nonprofit that works on policy issues at the intersection of criminal justice and public health. Since 2018 Missouri Appleseed has studied access to feminine hygiene products in Missouri's jails and prisons. Today Missouri Appleseed testifies in support of House Bill 318 and urges the Committee on Corrections and Public Institutions to give a Do Pass recommendation to the bill. Providing free, adequate-quality feminine hygiene products, including both pads and tampons, to women in Missouri jails and prisons is a health and dignity issue. When incarcerated women are required to purchase their own products or are given poor-quality products, women make their own products and put their health at risk. Incarcerated women should not be required to purchase feminine hygiene products. The vast majority of women in jails and prisons are indigent and, while incarcerated, lack the resources to purchase adequate-quality products in sufficient quantity to manage their periods. Many correctional institutions in Missouri and across the U.S. already provide free products to women in their custody. In 2019, the Missouri Department of Corrections adopted a policy of providing tampons as well as better pads in the state's two prisons for women. Several local jails, including jails in Saline County, St. Louis County, and St. Louis City, provide free pads and tampons as a matter of policy or law. Due to the recently passed federal legislation on criminal justice reform known as the First Step Act, facilities run by the Federal Bureau of Prisons also provide women inmates with free high-quality pads and tampons. Thank you, Representative DeGroot, for filing House Bill 318, and thank you to the Committee on Corrections and Public Institutions for allowing Missouri Appleseed to submit comments in support of this humane bill.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JESSICA PRICE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-6092	
REPRESENTING: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS - MISSOURI CHAPTER		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1805			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/23/2021 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: KAITLIN OWENS		PHONE NUMBER: 804-405-9559
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE UNION		TITLE: DEPUTY DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 1199 N. FAIRFAX ST., SUITE 500		
CITY: ALEXANDRIA	STATE: VA	ZIP: 22314
EMAIL: kowens@conservative.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/22/2021 5:55 PM

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Dear Chairman McDaniel and Members of the Committee: As a conservative organization, our mission at the American Conservative Union (“ACU”) is to educate Americans about conservative solutions to the country’s most pressing problems. ACU’s Nolan Center for Justice promotes policies that improve public safety, reduce government cost, and protect human dignity. Criminal Justice Reform is a high priority for ACU, and it has been highlighted at each of ACU’s Conservative Political Action Conferences (CPAC) for over a decade. When we think of prisons and jails, our thoughts usually go towards men, but women are put away too. As such, women’s needs are different than men. Once incarcerated, women must grapple with systems designed primarily for men. As a result, many leave jails with diminished prospects for physical and behavioral health recovery, as well as greater parental stress and financial instability. Prisons and jails give the “necessary” products to inmates. For instance, clothes, bed sheets, mattresses, and toilet paper are provided to all inmates. However, because women go through things that men don’t, does that mean that feminine hygiene products aren’t a necessity to their wellbeing? Feminine hygiene products stand for so much more than monthly necessities; they demonstrate our society’s commitment to self-worth and health. ACU is focused on sensible criminal justice policy. That is why we write in strong support of providing necessary products to women. The policies contained in House Bill 318 would create a sense of relief and hope, offering them a manageable path to achieve rehabilitation and redemption. Failing to act could actually waste precious taxpayer dollars without any additional public safety benefit. I know women who made products out of shreds of clothes or stuffing from inside their state-issued mattresses. The health risks that people take to provide for themselves the most basic of products are incalculable. Toxic shock, infection, infertility—it is a game of Russian roulette and not a price that anyone should have to pay. At its core, this is a starkly conservative bill, focusing on public safety and human dignity. Thank you again for the opportunity to present testimony concerning the need to address the unique challenges women face while behind bars, while advocating to improve the efficiency and equality of the justice system throughout the states. This is a very important and necessary issue not only for conservatives, but for people of all political persuasions. Kaitlin Owens Deputy Director American Conservative Union



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: M'EVIE MEAD		PHONE NUMBER: 314-604-7611	
REPRESENTING: PLANNED PARENTHOOD ADVOCATES IN MISSOURI		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF PLANNED PARENTHOOD ADVOCATES IN MO	
ADDRESS: 4251 FOREST PARK AVE			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63108
EMAIL: mevie.mead@ppmissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/23/2021 8:55 PM	

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Tuesday, February 23, 2021To: **House Corrections and Public Institutions**From: **M'Evie Mead**
Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri **mevie.mead@ppmissouri.org** **Testimony in support of HB 318**
 Due to the health risks associated with COVID-19, Planned Parenthood Advocates staff were unable to testify in person at today's hearing. Please accept our written testimony in support of HB 318. Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri supports providing free, adequate-quality period products, including both pads and tampons, to people in Missouri jails and prisons who menstruate. We agree with Missouri Applesseed: When incarcerated women are required to purchase their own products or are given poor-quality products, women make their own products and put their health at risk. Incarcerated women should not be required to purchase feminine hygiene products. The vast majority of women in jails and prisons are indigent and, while incarcerated, lack the resources to purchase adequate-quality products in sufficient quantity to manage their periods. Many correctional institutions in Missouri and across the U.S. already provide free products to women in their custody. In 2019, the Missouri Department of Corrections adopted a policy of providing tampons as well as better pads in the state's two prisons for women. Several local jails, including jails in Saline County, St. Louis County, and St. Louis City, provide free pads and tampons as a matter of policy or law. Due to the recently passed federal legislation on criminal justice reform known as the First Step Act, facilities run by the Federal Bureau of Prisons also provide women inmates with free high-quality pads and tampons.
 Excerpted from Missouri Applesseed testimony
 Access to free high-quality period supplies including pads and tampons should not depend on where you're incarcerated. All correctional institutions in Missouri and those incarcerated in Missouri will benefit from a clear statewide requirement to provide free high-quality pads and tampons. Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri supports the health, safety and dignity of incarcerated people and we urge you to support HB 318. Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri works to protect and expand sexual and reproductive rights and health for all Missourians. It is a joint project of Planned Parenthood Great Plains Votes and Advocates of Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri, the political and advocacy arms of both Planned Parenthood affiliates in Missouri.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MATTHEW ROSENE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mjrosene@wustl.edu	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/23/2021 10:26 AM
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In the United States, all people deserve to be treated with dignity and integrity. This should not stop at the prison gates. Our incarcerated also deserve to be treated as fellow human beings and this should apply to all aspects of their lives. This is especially important for incarcerated women, who need ready access to adequate hygiene products. By providing these women with the care products they need for free, it removes from them the financial burden of having to purchase pads and tampons for themselves, which for many is simply not possible. Lack of access forces many incarcerated women to either make their own pads and tampons or simply go without, which can pose risks to their own health. To this end, House Bill 318 aims to ensure that all females incarcerated within Missouri correctional facilities are given access to tampons and pads. By simply providing these necessary care products for free, we can further curtail additional medical risks and costs that can arise. In addition, this move should not be hard to implement, for many facilities across Missouri already provide free care products to women in custody. This bill simply ensures that all facilities are meeting the same basic standard. In summary, House Bill 318 not only upholds the basic dignity of the women incarcerated in Missouri, but also ensures that they do not have to unnecessarily put their own health at risk because they cannot afford necessary care products that they can and should get for free in other facilities. If we cannot even provide the most basic of necessary care to our incarcerated, then we are essentially denying them basic human rights. It is with this in mind that I thank Representative DeGroot for filing House Bill 318 and I strongly urge that it be passed.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: OLIVIA MCLARNAN	PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: DREAM CORPS JUSTICE	TITLE:	
ADDRESS:		
CITY: OAKLAND	STATE: CA	ZIP: 94612
EMAIL: olivia@dreamcorps.us	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/22/2021 1:13 PM
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Dear Chairman McDaniel, On behalf of Dream Corps JUSTICE, we write in strong support of Rep Bruce DeGroot's HB 318. The bill will improve the health and dignity of women in Missouri's jails and prisons. It draws upon similar bills that other states have passed including Georgia and Louisiana. As a national bipartisan initiative, Dream Corps JUSTICE seeks to cut crime and incarceration across all fifty states. JUSTICE is proud to be a leading voice in the effort to reform our federal and state criminal justice system through effective and compassionate legislation that recognizes the humanity of the 2.2 million people currently behind bars in America. We envision a criminal justice system that champions treatment over punishment and rehabilitation over retribution. Today, Missouri incarcerates 176 women per 100,000 women residents, which is well above the national rate and below nearly every other country in the world. Between 1989 and 2015, the rate of women incarcerated in the state has more than doubled. Since 2019 Missouri's Department of Corrections has provided free products to women as a matter of policy. HB 318 will formalize the Department of Corrections' policy in the statute. While some Missouri jails also provide free products for women, not all do. HB 318 will ensure that all women held in local jails will be provided free of charge with these basic healthcare products. We respectfully request that you and your committee vote "Due Pass" on this important bill.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: RON BERRY		PHONE NUMBER: 660-537-2239	
REPRESENTING: ST. LOUIS AREA DIAPER BANK		TITLE: REGISTERED LOBBYIST	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 722			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: ronalddberr@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/23/2021 7:00 PM	
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Support



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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TWYLA ADAIR		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: adairtwyla@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/23/2021 9:56 AM	
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February 22, 2021
 The Honorable Andrew McDaniel
 Chair, House Corrections and Public Institutions
 Committee
 201 West Capitol Avenue, Room 314
 Jefferson City, MO 65101
 RE: SUPPORT HB 318
 (DeGroot): Dignity for Incarcerated Women
 Dear Chairman McDaniel, I write in strong support of Rep
 Bruce DeGroot's HB 318. The bill will improve the health and dignity of women in Missouri's jails and
 prisons. It draws upon similar bills that other states have passed including Georgia and Louisiana.
 My name is Twyla Adair. I was released from federal prison on April 30th, 2020 after serving almost 4 years.
 This was not my first trip to prison. Unfortunately, I have served time in the Missouri and Kansas
 Department of Corrections. Every place I have been, there has been a constant struggle to receive the
 proper personal hygiene care that a woman needs during menstrual times. After giving birth to my
 youngest child while in the custody of Jackson County Detention Center, I was not allowed to bring my
 hygiene items from the hospital nor given decent sanitary equipment. I really hope something is done
 about the conditions women endure while incarcerated. Today, Missouri incarcerates 176 women per
 100,000 women residents, which is well above the national rate and below nearly every other country in
 the world. Between 1989 and 2015, the rate of women incarcerated in the state has more than doubled.
 Since 2019 Missouri's Department of Corrections has provided free products to women as a matter of
 policy. HB 318 will formalize the Department of Corrections' policy in statute. While some Missouri
 jails also provide free products for women, not all do. HB 318 will ensure that all women held in local
 jails will be provided free of charge these basic healthcare products. We respectfully request that you
 and your committee vote "Due Pass" on this important bill. Respectfully,
 Twyla Adair
 Directly Impacted
 Individual



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JILL BARNAS		PHONE NUMBER: 8152749225	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY INITIATIVE		TITLE: CHILDREN, FAMILIES, & SENIORS POLICY FELLOW	
ADDRESS: 238 HIGH ST.			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: jill@mostpolicyinitiative.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/15/2021 1:42 PM	
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This science note was prepared by MOST Policy Initiative, Inc., a nonprofit organization aimed to improve the health, sustainability, and economic growth of Missouri communities by providing objective, non-partisan information to Missouri's decision-makers. For more information, contact Dr. Jill Barnas, Children, Families, and Seniors Policy Fellow – jill@mostpolicyinitiative.org This was prepared on 2/15/2021. Science notes can be found at <https://mostpolicyinitiative.org/legislative-science-notes/Feminine Hygiene Products and Prisons>

Executive SummaryThe Missouri Department of Corrections (MDOC) offers free, yet nonabsorbent, sanitary napkins to incarcerated menstruating individuals, while adequate alternatives must be purchased. HB 318 specifies the Department of Corrections must ensure that feminine hygiene products, that conform to applicable industry standards, are available for free while they are confined in any of the Department's correctional centers. Additionally, every sheriff and jailer who holds a person in custody must ensure that tampons and sanitary napkins are available for free and in a quantity that is appropriate for the health care needs of the person. **Highlights?** Incarceration disproportionately affects ethnic minorities who may further be affected by reduced healthcare practices while incarcerated.? In Missouri, incarcerated individuals make a base pay of \$7.50-\$8.50 per month (33 to 37 cents per hour); feminine hygiene products cost 70-80% of their monthly wage.? Free sanitary napkins are provided by the MDOC; however, 80.3% of survey respondents created homemade tampons due to inadequate absorbency and reported problems associated with increased reproductive and urinary tract infections. ? Thirteen states and Washington, D.C. have passed legislation requiring free access to these products in prisons and correctional facilities.Limitations? There are no available reports of fiscal impacts (positive or negative) from states that have provided free feminine hygiene products to correctional facilities and prisons.

Research BackgroundIncarceration Demographics in MissouriMissouri has the one of the fastest growing female prison populations in the United States. Between 2007 and 2016, Missouri's female prison population increased by 33 percent.1 In 2017, the incarcerated female population was 81% White, 15% African American, and 87.2% were between the ages of 18-45 years old.1 Between 2000 and 2019, the national rate of African American female imprisonment has decreased by 60%, however, the rate is still 1.7 times higher than White females; consequently, there is a strong likelihood of being disproportionately affected by reduced access to appropriate feminine hygiene products while incarcerated.2 Access to Feminine Hygiene Products in Missouri FacilitiesThe majority of incarcerated individuals come from lower-income backgrounds, with national reports estimating 72% of women are

living in poverty prior to being arrested.³ Missouri inmates make a base pay of 33 cents per hour (37 cents per hour if they have a high school diploma) or \$7.50 to \$8.50 per month.⁴ These funds can help pay for services such as phone access, snack products, medical visits, and healthcare items. The MDOC offers free sanitary napkins to incarcerated individuals who menstruate, however, these products do not meet the industry standard for absorbency; industry standard /absorbent alternatives are available for purchase. In Missouri commissaries or canteens, industry tested feminine hygiene products cost approximately \$6.00 for 18 pads or 20 tampons. For reference, a box of 36 Tampax Tampons can cost approximately \$7.00 in retail stores and to accommodate most menstrual cycles, a minimum of 21 tampons or pads are needed. The cost of these products in canteens means approximately 70-80% of an incarcerated individual's monthly wage may be used to buy feminine hygiene products each month. This may require forgoing medical care or a phone call to family in order to purchase feminine hygiene products and places a significant financial burden on incarcerated females. Many incarcerated females have had difficulty accessing adequate menstrual products which can lead to physical and mental health effects. The Missouri Appleseed, a non-profit committed to providing all Missourians an opportunity to live healthy, dignified, and productive lives, surveyed 90 incarcerated women about feminine hygiene in the prisons and unmet hygiene needs.⁵ Of the 87.3% of respondents using the free pads from MDOC, 50% reported having to change them more frequently due to inadequate absorbency.⁵ Due to accessibility to adequate products, 80.3% of respondents created homemade tampons.⁵ This led to an increased incidence of reported infections (1 in 4 women), however, respondents continued to use homemade products due to inadequate alternatives.⁵ Poor feminine hygiene is associated with increased reproductive and urinary tract infections and ultimately, increased healthcare costs.⁶ Additionally, poor feminine hygiene increases workplace safety risks as bloodborne pathogens can be transmitted through menses.^{7,8} Legislation for Feminine Hygiene Products in Prisons In 2016, New York passed the first legislation that required correctional facilities (in addition to schools and shelters) to provide free feminine hygiene products. In 2018, the FIRST STEP act was passed which mandated federal correction centers to provide feminine hygiene products at no cost to incarcerated females.^{9,10} In federal correctional facilities, feminine hygiene products were available for purchase in the commissary or canteen at inflated prices (two tampons could cost \$5.55). In accordance, some states passed legislation that required or ensured adequate access to menstrual products in state correctional facilities; as of 2020, 13 states (AL, CA, CO, CT, FL, KY, LA, MD, NY, TN, TX, VA) and Washington, D.C. have legislation requiring free access to such products in state prisons and correctional facilities. The product brands used in these facilities are undisclosed, however, reports from varying states suggest that the feminine hygiene products that are provided for free are less absorbent than the industry standard products which were only available for purchase in the canteen. There are no available reports of fiscal impacts from states that have provided free feminine hygiene products in prisons. References

1. Missouri Department of Corrections (2017). Profile of the Institutional and Supervised Offender Population. Retrieved February 2021 from https://doc.mo.gov/sites/doc/files/2018-06/Offender-Profile_2017_2.pdf.
2. The Sentencing Project. (2020). Incarcerated Women and Girls. Retrieved February 2021 from <https://www.sentencingproject.org/publications/incarcerated-women-and-girls/>.
3. Hayes, T. & Barnhorst, M. (2020) Incarceration and Poverty in the United States. American Action Forum. Retrieved February 2021 from <https://www.americanactionforum.org/research/incarceration-and-poverty-in-the-united-states/>.
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