



Undergraduate Student Government

General Assembly Resolution R. 26-02

Authors: Vice President Petsinger, President Ward, Treasurer Rao

Cosponsors: Representative Kim, Representative Xu

Presented: 12/5/2016

Passed: 02/21/2017

Access to Free Menstrual Health Products

Whereas, Case Western Reserve University lists inclusiveness and diversity as a core value of the University, and should be held accountable for the implementation of policies that embody the university's values;

Whereas, the inaccessibility of menstrual health products for CWRU community members who need them acts as a discriminatory barrier to education on the basis of sex and socioeconomic status;

Whereas, access to free menstrual health products would lessen the financial burden on students of disadvantaged financial backgrounds, allowing students to focus their efforts on academics and the overall CWRU experience;

Whereas, providing menstrual hygiene products would not only alleviate the financial burden on community members, but would also provide a convenient service for community members that would improve their overall experience;

Whereas, other institutions of higher education, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, The University of Minnesota, and Columbia University have set a precedence for providing free menstrual health products;

Whereas, the University has already dedicated funds to making sexual health products accessible and free to members of the community, thus demonstrating the need to provide students and community members with products that are necessary for the overall health of the campus community;

Whereas, USG survey data (See Appendix A) indicates that the majority (77.6%) of students surveyed express high interest in having access to free menstrual health products;



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Whereas, a collaborative task force has been formed with representatives from the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Flora Stone Mather Center for Women, LGBT Center, Residence Hall Association, Undergraduate Diversity Collaborative, Graduate Student Council, Feminist Collective, and the Undergraduate Student Government to generate a proposal for making menstrual health products free and accessible on campus.

Be it resolved by the Undergraduate Student Government, acting in full session:

- I. That the University allocate funds for free menstrual health products in the 2018-2019 budget and in perpetuity.
- II. That the University provide free tampons, liners, and sanitary napkins in consistent locations that are easily accessible for community members, and that diva cups be provided in select university department offices.
- III. That the University consider providing menstrual health products in all bathrooms, regardless of gender, in order to be inclusive for all community members that menstruate.
- IV. That the University refer to the proposal being drafted by the Menstrual Product and Sexual Health Task Force when considering the logistics and details of implementation.
- V. That this resolution be sent, in its entirety, to:
 - a. Barbara Snyder, President
 - b. William Baeslack, Provost and Executive Vice President
 - c. Marilyn Mobley, Vice President for Inclusion, Diversity and Equal Opportunity and Professor of English
 - d. Steve Campbell, Vice President for Campus Planning and Facilities Management
 - e. Dick Jamieson, Vice President for Campus Services
 - f. Louis Stark, Vice President of Student Affairs
 - g. Jenna McCarthy, Executive Director of University Health and Counseling Services
 - h. Naomi Sigg, Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs
 - i. Lisa Nielson, Interim Director of Flora Stone Mather Center for Women
 - j. Liz Roccoforte, LGBT Center Director



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Appendix A

Analyzed survey data (227 responses among the undergraduate student body)

Interest in having menstrual products free and accessible to students, faculty, and community members (1 low- 5 high):

5: 56.1%

4: 21.51%

3: 12.56%

2: 1.78%

1: 8.09%