MENSTRUAL HEALTH REPORT CARD

California

Overall Grade	*State Ranking*
A	#1

Period poverty is the inability to afford or access menstrual health products, education, or sanitation facilities. In the U.S., 2 in 5 people have struggled to afford period products.[1] When unaddressed, period poverty can lead to missed school and work, increased risk of infections, and shame or isolation due to social stigma.

This report card details the current state of menstrual health policies in your state.

SUBJECT	GRADE	CURRENT POLICY
Menstrual Product Taxation	**A**	California removed the tax on menstrual products in 2019.[2]
Menstrual Products in Schools	**A**	All public schools serving grades 3-12 must provide menstrual products at no cost in bathrooms, with funding provided by the state. Community colleges and public schools must also provide products.[3]
Menstrual Products in Incarceration Facilities	**A**	Menstrual products must be readily available to incarcerated individuals at no cost and without a request.[4]
Menstrual Products in Public Buildings	**A**	Buildings owned or leased by the state, hospitals receiving state funds, and buildings owned by a local government where a specified state-funded safety net program is administered must provide menstrual products in bathrooms for employees and the public at no cost.[5]
Good Samaritan Menstrual Product Donations	**F**	California does not have a Good Samaritan menstrual product donation law.

Recommendations

1. Implement a Good Samaritan law to protect menstrual product donations made in good faith from civil & criminal liability.
2. Extend mandate for menstrual products in schools to private, charter, and tribal schools.

References

1 Alliance for Period Supplies & U by Kotex, 2021
2 California SB92, 2019
3 California AB391, 2021
4 California AB1810, 2024
5 California SB59, 2024

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