MENSTRUAL HEALTH REPORT CARD

Tennessee

Overall Grade	*State Ranking*
D+	#30

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	**F**	Tennessee taxes menstrual products at 7%, the highest rate in the country.
Menstrual Products in Schools	**F**	Tennessee neither requires nor funds the provision of menstrual products in schools.
Menstrual Products in Incarceration Facilities	**A**	Tennessee requires the provision of menstrual products to incarcerated women at all correctional facilities at no cost and in a reasonable quantity.[2]
Menstrual Products in Public Buildings	**F**	Tennessee does not require the provision of menstrual products in public buildings.
Good Samaritan Menstrual Product Donation Laws	**A**	Tennessee does have a Good Samaritan menstrual product donation law.[3]

Recommendations

1. Exempt menstrual products from the state sales tax.
2. Require the provision of menstrual products at no cost in public schools.
3. Create a grant program to assist in funding menstrual products in low-income schools.

References

1 Alliance for Period Supplies & U by Kotex, 2021
2 Tenn. Code Ann. § 41-21-245, 2019
3 Tenn. Code § 53-1-117, 2024

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