

PERIOD.

Friday, November 17, 2023

The Honorable Evan Glass
President, Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Ave
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Council President and Members of the Montgomery County Council:

PERIOD. is pleased to support Bill 42-23, the Menstrual Products Access & Equity Act, sponsored by Councilmember Jawando.

Passing this legislation is a crucial step toward ensuring access to menstrual products for all individuals who menstruate. Menstrual products, like toilet paper and soap, are fundamental to ensuring the health, dignity, and full participation of all residents. It is disheartening to acknowledge that across the County, period poverty persists, isolating those who menstruate from accessing essential products to manage their periods. Bill 42-23 presents a proactive solution to this issue by mandating free access to menstrual products in all public restrooms in Montgomery County.

The proposed legislation, which requires public accommodations to provide menstrual products at no cost, is a commendable effort to advance health and menstrual equity. This mandate, applicable to all public spaces with permanent restrooms, demonstrates a commitment to fostering gender equality and promoting the overall well-being of individuals who menstruate.

Passing Bill 42-23 is a critical step toward removing barriers to equity for all Montgomery County residents who menstruate, especially those who have struggled to access menstrual products due to income.

By ensuring free access to menstrual products in public restrooms, we can take a significant step towards removing barriers to equity across Montgomery County. Thank you for your time and dedication to this important cause.

Sincerely,



Michela Bedard
Executive Director
PERIOD. Inc.,



Damaris Pereda
National Programs Director
PERIOD. Inc.,