

**THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH**

Bill Number: Senate Resolution # 2018-29
Title: Implementation of Accessible Menstrual Hygiene Products
Sponsored by: Senator-at-Large Danielle Carancho, Senator for the College of Liberal Arts
 Melissa Mejia, Senator for the College of Natural Science and Mathematics Ian
 Macdonald, Senators for the College of Engineering Xan Balayan and
 Abhishek Basavanna
Cosponsored by: USUBOT Trustees-at-large Sarah Forde and Maritess Inieto
Date Submitted: April 25, 2018
Date Approved: May 9, 2018

WHEREAS the Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) Board of Directors of California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) is the recognized voice for over 37,000 students; and

WHEREAS the CSULB ASI Board of Directors 2016-17 passed Senate Resolution #2017-22 advocating on behalf of affordable menstrual hygiene products on campus asking the University to create and maintain a sustainable service to provide free tampons and pads for all restrooms on campus regardless of gender;¹ and

WHEREAS on October 6, 2017 the University Student Union (USU) Board of Trustees (USUBOT) voted to implement the *Free Menstrual Hygiene Pilot Program* making products free within restrooms located inside the USU and Student Recreation & Wellness Center (SRWC) including all-female, all-male and gender inclusive restroom facilities; and

WHEREAS through student feedback received via comment cards, USUBOT Campus Relations Chair, Maritess Inieto, received positive feedback in regards to the pilot program, some student statements listed below:

- November 17, 2017: "Thank you for providing free sanitary napkins for females in the restrooms. You don't even know how much it means to us (females) this is a huge deal!"
- November 28, 2017: "Thank you for making the pads + tampons free in the restroom you are all out here saving lives;" and

WHEREAS in March 2018, after the initial pilot program was established, the budget discretion report findings found the following budget impact:

- CSULB Sanitary Supplies Report from September 2017 to March 2018:
 - Sanitary Napkins \$491.88
 - Tampons \$483.28
 - Totals: \$975.16;*and

WHEREAS the annual cost for tampons based on current numbers would be approximately \$4,140 per year at \$115 per case, three cases a month; and

WHEREAS the annual cost to provide sanitary napkins would be \$3,816 per year at \$53 per case, six cases a month; the total cost to the USU Operating Budget for the 2018-19 fiscal year would be about \$7,956, to provide menstrual product supplies for both the USU and SRWC; and

WHEREAS due to the necessity of menstrual hygiene products and the financial instability

¹https://www.asicsulb.org/gov/documents/senate/resolutions/2016-2017/SR-2017-22_Affordable_Menstrual_Hygiene_Act.pdf

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of many students² on campus, the USUBOT voted to adopt the program indefinitely on April 6, 2018 to protect the safety and health of the student population; and

WHEREAS student concerns brought forth to the ASI 2017-18 Board of Directors have found that menstrual hygiene products are not readily accessible in all buildings on campus outside of the USU and SRWC; and

WHEREAS 86% of females have unexpectedly started their period in public without the menstrual hygiene products they need, and of those women, 79% improvised with toilet paper or something else;³ and

WHEREAS as of fall 2017, CSULB had a female identified population of 21,527 students enrolled comprising over 58% of the campus;⁴ and

WHEREAS the mission statement of the CSULB Student Health Services states, "The mission of Student Health Services is to support academic excellence by promoting physical and mental well-being, through affordable quality health services and education;"⁵ and

WHEREAS in February 2016, the CSULB Student Health Services began providing free latex condoms to students through dispensaries in restrooms on campus;⁶ and

WHEREAS students have the choice to abstain from sexual activity, whereas menstruation is a natural process that cannot be avoided without medical intervention;⁷ and

WHEREAS while other restroom necessities such as toilet paper, paper towels, and seat covers are available free of charge to students, menstrual products are not; and

WHEREAS the Student Fee Advisory Committee voted to increase the Student Health Services fee from \$45 to \$75 effective fall 2017; and

WHEREAS on February 14, 2018, Student Health Services reported to the ASI Board of Directors that since the health fee increase the new fee revenue is \$1,125,000 per semester or \$2,250,000/year; and

WHEREAS the cost to provide students on campus one tampon/per month would be .14 cents, and the cost to purchase 500 tampons is \$71.07/case; additionally, on average, individuals spend about \$61.11 on tampons per year and \$59.46 on maxi pads per year; and

WHEREAS if the university were to purchase menstrual hygiene products for all CSULB students, the cost would be \$33.60 per student per year or approximately \$723,307.20 for all students in need of the product; and

² <https://www.mercurynews.com/2017/12/24/the-csu-graduates-with-the-most-student-debt/>

³ <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2013/10/prweb11221203.htm>

⁴ https://data.ir.csulb.edu/t/IRA-Public/views/StudentBasedEnrollmentData/StudentBasedCollegeLevelHeadCountFTESandAUL?:embed=y&:showAppBanner=false&:showShareOptions=true&:display_count=no&:showVizHome=no

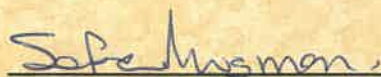
⁵ web.csulb.edu/divisions/students/shs

⁶ <http://www.daily49er.com/news/2017/10/31/csulb-students-gain-easy-access-to-condoms-on-campus/>

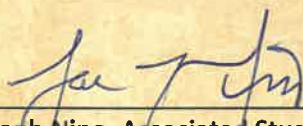
⁷ <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/19/well/live/how-to-stop-your-period.html>

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- WHEREAS** the ASI Board of Directors 2017-18 believes menstrual hygiene products should be a human right concurring that "menstrual hygiene products are a necessity, not a luxury"⁸ and should be considered of greater importance to condom usage; now therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the CSULB ASI Board of Directors 2018-19 conduct a menstrual hygiene product accessibility report identifying how many restrooms on campus provide products be it dispensers and/or baskets at this current time; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that the 2017-18 CSULB ASI Board of Directors urges our university to re-evaluate the budget distribution to locate the necessary funds to finance providing all restrooms located on campus with sanitary napkins/tampon dispensers to make menstrual hygiene products more accessible for students; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that we recommend the current administration look to fellow universities such as Chapman, UCLA, Columbia University, Brown University, and Boston University which have begun providing free menstrual hygiene product services campus- wide; and be it further
- RESOLVED** That the 2017-18 CSULB ASI Board of Directors urges the university to ultimately work toward adopting services making tampons and sanitary napkins free in all restrooms located on campus regardless of gender; and be it further
- RESOLVED** as a cost efficiency technique utilize any existing dispensers to be adjusted so products are dispensed free of charge to students; and be it finally
- RESOLVED** that an electronic copy of this resolution, upon approval by the ASI President be distributed to CSULB President Jane Conoley, Vice President for Student Affairs Carmen Taylor, Dean of Students Piya Bose, Vice President for Administration and Finance Scott Apel, Senior Vice President & Provost Brian Jersky, Coordinator for the Women's & Gender Equity Center Pam Rayburn, Assistant Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs Christian Lozano, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Mary Ann Takemoto, the Cal State Student Association, CSU Chancellor Timothy White, all current ASI Officers, the Daily 49er, and 22 West Magazine.


Sofia Musman, Vice President &
Chair, Associated Students Board of Directors

Delivered to the President of the Associated Students on:


Joseph Nino, Associated Students President

5/9/18
Date

5/9/18
Date

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⁸https://impact.vice.com/en_us/article/j5e9qb/tampons-are-a-necessity-not-a-luxury

