
From: Ellen Lodwick
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 8:52 PM
Subject: Constituent comment on Bill 42-34

Council Bill 42-23: Health and Sanitation//Menstrual Products in Public Restrooms--Required

When will the County Council stop trying to force the County and its taxpayers to take care of everyone? As a woman who dealt with this sort of thing for years, I feel the only possible legitimate purpose of legislation of this type would be for schools. Even then, parents could actually teach their daughters to "be prepared" instead of expecting that, as usual, some government entity was going to take care of their basic needs.

If this legislation passes, I can imagine the amount of money that individuals pilfering restrooms can make when reselling the products that they have stolen. Stories of the issues being faced by drugstores and other businesses throughout the Washington, DC metropolitan area clearly illustrate possible problems down the road. When individuals or County inspectors visit the public restrooms in question, what will occur when it's discovered that no menstrual products are available? Fines and/or citations for the owners, or other measures? The sanitary pads vs. tampon question introduces an additional dimension.

And please, don't go down the "it's expensive" road about sanitary products. People have money for loads of things they view as fun, pleasurable or interesting. It's just that personal hygiene isn't any of those things.

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