

**Commission for Women
Special Meeting Minutes / Virtual
December 6, 2023 / 8:30 – 9:00 p.m.**



“Don’t think about making women fit the world- think about making the world fit women.”

Gloria Steinem

Attendees

Arlinda Clark, Chair
Lindsey Turnbull, 2nd Vice Chair

Jodi Danis Liz Richard Tondalayo Royster LaDonna King
Kimberly Mouzon Janet LaValle Helene Meister

CFW Team Members

Jodi Finkelstein, Executive Director

Absent

Isabel Argoti Vice Chair
Ijeoma Enendu
Tonja Paylor
Kathy Estrada
Betty Romero

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

**1. OVERVIEW OF MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS ACCESS AND EQUITY ACT/
COMMISSIONER ROYSTER**

Purpose: Menstrual products in public places, including businesses

Enforcement: Fine, Max \$1,000, 6-months confinement

Majority of PALs support the bill

Questions

- How much of the supply is required to be on hand?
- Are we supporting this bill as it is written? Concern for small businesses
 - Could carve out amendment, or cite concerns
 - Consideration for between small business
- 6 month incarceration is not a reasonable punishment for violation

Potential to ask for amendment on jail time
Concerns: How it applies to small businesses, potential for jail

It would be civil violation, not a criminal violation, so incarceration does not apply in this case

PALS recommends supporting bill with amendment to add a provision that addresses separate conditions for small businesses owners

Discussed: What is a small business? Reduced fine? Some condition/provision for small business that does not have to take on the same reasonability as a larger company

Clarification that the incarceration language not in the bill

From bill: A violation of this section is a Class A violation

Civil, not criminal

Complaint driven; Health & Human Services would be charged with enforcement; HHS may not have the bandwidth for enforcement

Will this be part of health code inspections for restaurants?

The Commission supports the bill in concept but would like to see provisions for exemptions and/or limited fines and or penalties proportionate to the size of the business.

Discussed possible tiered fined structure

Executive Director Jodi Finkelstein will send letter to Chair Clark tomorrow for the testimony ahead of 12 DEC 2023

Chair Clark will sign on behalf of the Commission

Happy birthday to Chair Clark

Reminder on WLB next month

Final Commission Discussion on Bill: The Commission supports the bill in concept but would like to see provisions for exemptions and/or limited fines and or penalties proportionate to the size of the business.

2. Meeting Adjourned

CFW In Person Meetings Scheduled:

March 14, 2024

June 13, 2024