

Florida A & M University Student Government Association
49th Student Senate
FA19SR-002

Author: Student Body Vice President Natalie Antenor
Planned Parenthood Generation Action at FAMU

Sponsor: Senator Theresa Jean Louis, Senator Maurice Gilbert

First Reading: December 2, 2019

Second Reading: January 6, 2020

Title: Feminine Hygiene Products
Legislation: Senate Resolution Bill

Whereas, The Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Student Government Association is the governing entity of the Student Body, and is empowered to work for the betterment of the general welfare of the Student Body, to express the general interest of the Student Body, and to provide for full student participation in student government; and

Whereas, Since its inception in August of 2017, Planned Parenthood Generation Action at FAMU (also referred to as Generation Action) is a registered student organization which exists to educate the university community about reproductive health and rights, to translate increased awareness into pro-choice activism on campus, and to serve as a coalition partner to state, national and international reproductive rights efforts; and

Whereas, Generation Action has identified a lack of feminine hygiene products and the current locations that provide complimentary feminine hygiene products are inadequate to serve the population of students affected. Lack of access to feminine hygiene products has long been a barrier to education and workplace success for women. The *Always® Confidence & Puberty* Survey has found that “1 in 5 female students are kept out of school during their period”. According to the university's Office of Institutional Research, approximately 6,465 of 10,031 students enrolled this past Fall 2018 Semester were female. Nearly every female menstruates and—in turn—buys or seeks access to feminine hygiene products such as tampons and pads, making these products essential to student health and—therefore—student success; and

Whereas, There is a global movement to bring “Menstrual Equity” through improving the general access to feminine hygiene products. Governing bodies are actively seeking ways to make access to feminine hygiene products more accessible as well, including Florida being among the states to eliminate the tax on tampons and menstrual pads in 2018—saving residents nearly \$11 million in taxes, and state legislation passed in California and Illinois mandating feminine hygiene products be made available in public schools.

Therefore, Be it **resolved**, that the Florida A&M University Student Government Association and Student Body acknowledge that feminine hygiene products should be made available across campus in women’s- and gender-neutral restrooms, and that this service should be provided free of charge by the University.

Proviso Language: *This piece of legislation will take effect upon signage by the Student Body President. A copy of this legislation will be provided to Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. William Hudson, Jr. and Associate Vice President/Dean of Students, Mr. Bomani H. Spell.*

For Office Use Only

For: 27 Opposed: Abstain:

Pass:  Fail:

Student Senate President *Christopher V. Miller* Date:

Student Body President *Rocharad Moricette* Date: