

Mallory Moon/Park Hill High School

Proponent HB 2111

In Writing

To the Committee Chairman,

The secrecy of menstruation is something that I have found bizarre. We have mannered people to hide such natural occurrences. It hides under the sleeves of people striding to the bathroom, it hides behind "25 cents for a tampon" dispensers, and it hides behind every person that has ever experienced economic insecurity. Even the word itself is deemed rather restricted.

I felt often singular in my passion to change such an observation. Until I acquired a small note card posted in an envelope. It was dropped off at one of the collection sites for a project that served to send menstruation products to homeless shelters in need. The note bestowed a thank you letter and a wish for future success. I now hold it dearly because it finally confirmed what I saw all along. Through my long observation of the world around me, I had fully considered this was something that needed change. From watching the women around me whisper, to the homeless women I saw who needed products, the truth became relevant in each case. It keeps me dedicated to my cause and solidifies my motivation to unfold the conditioned secrecy of period poverty for everyone.

As a young advocate, I have found success in my own creation of a community organization for such an important cause. Collectively, Period Redefined (my organization) has received over 150 boxes of hygienic products, which in turn have been sent out to over 3 local shelters for distribution. Importantly, I have been able to successfully shift my own school bathrooms into providing these products for free usage. I have also grown fond of working with other organizations with the same cause such as I Support The Girls, and stretching the support for these essentials into local businesses and events. If the passion has not been made clear enough, I request that this bill is imperative to be passed so that I may finally get to see the alleviation of the price tag for such critical products. And while it is something that has been said before, my organization stands to help, but the hope is that there will be one day when I won't need to.

Thank you for your consideration!

Mallory Moon

