

HAMPSHIRE-FRANKLIN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2023-2024

An Act to increase access to disposable menstrual products (IAM Bill) (S. 1381/H. 534)

Lead Sponsors: Rep Jay D. Livingstone, Rep Christine P. Barber & Sen Jehlen

Coalition: Massachusetts Menstrual Equity

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health

This bill would provide access to free menstrual products to all menstruating individuals in schools, shelters &

prisons.

An Act providing affordable and accessible high-quality early education and care to promote child development and well-being and the economy in the Commonwealth (S. 301/H. 489)

Lead Sponsors: Sen Jason M. Lewis and Reps Kenneth I. Gordon and Adrian C. Madaro **Coalition:** Common Start

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education

This bill would establish a universal system of affordable, high-quality education and childcare for all Massachusetts families. The system would cover early education and care for children age birth through 5, after and out of school time for children age 5-12, and children with special needs though age 15.

An Act establishing a diaper benefits pilot program (S. 104/H. 149)

Lead Sponsors: Sen Joan Lovely and Reps Mindy Domb and Smitty Pignatelli

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Children, Families, and Persons with Disabilities

This bill would establish a diaper insufficiency fund and to provide diaper benefits for certain parents.

An Act relative to universal school meals (S. 261/H. 603)

Lead Sponsors: Sen Sal Didomenico and Rep Andres X. Vargas

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education

This bill would require schools to promote the supplemental nutrition assistance program to families.

An Act relative to hormonal contraceptives (S. 1430/H. 2133)

Lead Sponsors: Sen Michael O. Moore and Reps Christine Barber and Lindsay Sabadosa

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health

This bill would provide greater access to hormonal contraceptives for individuals, as well as require new training and procedures for pharmacists.

An Act establishing the hunger free campus initiative (S. 835/H. 1293)

Lead Sponsors: Sen Joan Lovely and Reps Andres Vargas and Mindy Domb

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education

This bill would a establish a hunger-free campus grant program.

An Act relative to Medicaid coverage for doula services (S. 782/H. 1240)

Lead Sponsors: Sen Liz Miranda and Rep Lindsey N. Sabadosa

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Health Care Financing

The bill will ensure that doula services are covered by Medicare and MassHealth. It will create a registry of doulas in order to regulate reimbursements and standardize competencies. The bill will also create a commission made up of doulas and members of communities with worse maternal health outcomes including members of the LGBTQ+ community, those dependent on MassHealth, and those who have experienced maternal or sexual trauma.