

MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

BRISTOL COUNTY COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2023-2024

An Act to increase access to disposable menstrual products (IAM Bill) (<u>S. 1381/H. 534</u>) Lead Sponsors: Rep Jay D. Livingstone, Rep Christine P. Barber, and Senator Jehlen Coalition: <u>Massachusetts Menstrual Equity</u> 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 relative to birthing justice in the Commonwealth (S. 1415) Lead Sponsors: Sen Miranda Coalition: Bay State Birth Coalition Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health

This bill introduces a framework to improve maternal health outcomes and advance recommendations from the Special Commission on Racial Inequities in Maternal Health, including better integrating midwifery care into our maternal health care system to improve access to out-of-hospital birthing options and reducing financial and administrative barriers to the creation of free-standing birth centers.

*Also exploring additional issues related to maternal healthcare – and researching bills that tie to supporting pregnant women and mothers, especially women of color and immigrant women who lack accessible services and resources.