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Legislative Document

No. 628

H.P. 457

House of Representatives, February 5, 2019

**An Act To Ensure Comprehensive Access to Menstrual Products in
All Maine's Jails, County Correctional Facilities and State
Correctional and Detention Facilities**

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative WARREN of Hallowell.
Cosponsored by Senator DESCHAMBAULT of York and
Representatives: DUNPHY of Old Town, EVANGELOS of Friendship, GROHOSKI of
Ellsworth, MADIGAN of Waterville, O'NEIL of Saco, SHARPE of Durham, TALBOT ROSS
of Portland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §1565** is enacted to read:

3 **§1565. Menstrual products**

4 Any female person incarcerated in a jail or other county correctional facility has a
5 right to comprehensive access to menstrual products, including, but not limited to,
6 sanitary pads, tampons and menstrual cups, provided without charge to the incarcerated
7 person.

8 **Sec. 2. 34-A MRSA §3031, sub-§§7 and 8,** as enacted by PL 1983, c. 459, §6,
9 are amended to read:

10 **7. Area for personal effects.** A reasonably secure area for the maintenance of
11 permitted personal effects; ~~and~~

12 **8. Visitation.** A reasonable opportunity to visit with relatives and friends, in
13 accordance with departmental policies and institutional procedures, provided that the
14 department may restrict or prohibit visits when the restriction or prohibition is necessary
15 for the security of the institution; and

16 **Sec. 3. 34-A MRSA §3031, sub-§9** is enacted to read:

17 **9. Menstrual products.** Comprehensive access to menstrual products, including,
18 but not limited to, sanitary pads, tampons and menstrual cups, provided without charge to
19 a female person residing in the correctional or detention facility.

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This bill adds to the rights of a person residing in a correctional or detention facility
22 under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections the right to comprehensive access
23 to menstrual products, including sanitary pads, tampons and menstrual cups, provided
24 without charge to a female person residing in the correctional or detention facility.

25 This bill provides that any female person incarcerated in a jail or other county
26 correctional facility has a right to comprehensive access to menstrual products, including,
27 but not limited to, sanitary pads, tampons and menstrual cups, without charge to the
28 incarcerated person.