

**MAINE  
PRINCIPALS'  
ASSOCIATION**



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**TO: Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs**  
**FROM: Maine Principals' Association Legislative Committee**  
**RE: Neither For Nor Against LD 348: An Act to Make  
Menstrual Products Available in Certain Schools**  
**DATE: May 9, 2023**

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. My name is Dr. Holly Blair, and I am the Executive Director of the Maine Principals' Association – Professional Division. The MPA represents more than 800 PreK-12 principals and assistant principals of public and private schools in Maine.

The MPA Legislative Committee is neither for nor against LD 348. We fully support the distribution of menstrual products at no cost for students who need them, regardless, of grade. In the 130<sup>th</sup> legislature, we were in support of LD 452, which made menstrual products available to students.

Our concern with this bill is twofold: it limits the grades who will provide these products to grades 6 through 12. There are younger students who will need access to them as well. The second issue is the placement of the products. The bill specifies that the products be placed in all bathrooms. When talking with the MPA Legislative Committee, 100% of the committee members who make these products readily available in all bathrooms have seen the misuse of the products to the point of causing disruption in cleanliness of the school and with student learning.

If the bill could be amended to take out grade levels and leave the placement of the free menstrual products up to the individual schools to place them in a safe space for all students, the MPA Legislative Committee would unanimously support this bill.

For these reasons, the MPA is Neither For Nor Against LD 348.