

The Female Health and Wellness Act (H.3747 & S. 574)

This bill would exempt feminine hygiene products from sales tax. The removal of the tax on period products would alleviate the additional monthly expense of paying a luxury tax on a necessary medical product.

Menstrual (or Period) Equity is the idea that people who have periods shouldn't be economically disadvantaged by the need for period products. This is especially important for lower-income people with periods who end up having to spend a greater percentage of their income on necessary medical products.

From the taxation of period products as luxury items to the unavailability of said products to young people in schools and incarcerated people in jails and prisons, Menstrual Equity seeks to address the gender injustice created by the very real need for period products.

Did you know that South Carolina has a tax on tampons, but amusement park rides are untaxed?

In order to have a fully equitable society, we must have laws and policies that take into account the reality that half the population menstruates. Menstrual products should be tax-exempt. They should be affordable and available for all, safe for our bodies and the planet. Periods should not hold anyone back, period.¹

¹Period Equity. Retrieved from <https://www.periodequity.org/>

The Women's Rights and Empowerment Network is a South Carolina-based network whose mission is to build a movement to advance the health, economic well-being, and rights of South Carolina's women, girls, and their families.

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