



**Dear Utah Board of Higher Education,**

As the Utah Student Association Board (USA), we take seriously our responsibility to represent and advocate for each student attending Utah's degree-granting institutions. One of our highest priorities and initiatives related to equity and meeting student basic needs is having access to free menstrual products on our campuses.

Our institutions are in varying stages of implementation of this initiative and have encountered different, unique barriers. We are thankful for the collaboration and willingness shown by so many of our institutional leaders thus far and hope for this to continue. Utah State University and Utah Valley University, for example, have fully funded and made the additions and alterations to existing product dispensers required to ensure free access to these products in their campus restrooms. They have also committed to funding the ongoing costs. At other institutions, some restrooms have dispensers that require payment for the products, and others don't have dispensers at all. Some institution administrators and staff have concerns regarding the one-time and ongoing costs related to providing these products for free. It is our opinion that the one-time "set-up" costs are marginal, as are the expected ongoing costs to provide the products.

USA recognizes that the direction, recommendations, and guidance from the Utah Board of Higher Education (UBHE) influences our institutions and helps to inform their individual efforts. We are also aware that part of the Board's Strategic Plan includes commitments to meeting student basic needs so students can persist through to degree/award completion and have a meaningful and successful student experience. We believe strongly that public and free access for students to menstrual products is a basic need, and we encourage the Board to reflect this in its efforts as it carries out its Strategic Plan.

We request the Board's endorsement of our initiative related to offering free menstrual products in campus restrooms across the system and would appreciate assistance in accomplishing this goal. Such measures could include working with the Utah Legislature, considering the advancement of [HB162](#), and/or in other ways such as partnering with organizations, like the Period Project, to better understand how our institutions can act quickly and carefully in their efforts to provide these products free of cost across all Utah higher education campuses.

The USA Board has confidence that the UBHE can continually support student success and positively impact equity and inclusion throughout the system by endorsing and supporting our efforts. We look forward to the anticipated collaboration and support ahead.

Sincerely,

Utah Student Association

Nouman Kante, USA President and SUUSA President  
Penny Mills, USA Executive Vice President and DSUSA President  
Lucas Stevens, USA Legislative Vice President and USUSA President  
Lindsay Simons, SLCCSA President  
Jess Wojciechowski, ASUU President  
Bryson Pugh EUSA President  
Karen Magaña, UVUSA President  
Ben Ferney, WSUSA President  
Paul Victor, BYUSA President  
Tanner Marcum, UBHE Student Board Member