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March 31, 2021

The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell Chair, Assembly Education Committee State Capitol, Room 4001 Sacramento, CA 94249-0070

Re: AB 367 (Garcia) - Support

Dear Assemblymember O'Donnell,

On behalf of the California Women's Law Center, we write in support of AB 367 which would improve access to menstrual products in public schools, California State University and community college campuses, and public agency buildings.

Current California law requires Title I public schools (where 40% of students live below the Federal Poverty Line and that serve students in grades 6-12) stock at least 50% of their restrooms with free menstrual products. However, there is no similar requirement for non-Title I public schools, California State University campuses, community colleges, or public agencies.

A lack of access to menstrual products can cause serious health issues, including emotional duress, physical infection, and disease. Menstrual product cost and a lack of access especially affects low-income people and other vulnerable populations. Providing menstrual products is an important step in closing the menstrual equity gap that disparately impacts girls, women, transgender men, and non-binary people.

AB 367 would extend the requirements applicable to Title I public K-12 schools to all other public K-12 schools, as well as California State Universities, community colleges, and public agency buildings. The bill also requires the posting of notices in public school bathrooms informing students that free menstrual products are available, including contact information for a designated individual to ensure the restrooms remain stocked.

CWLC's mission is to create a more just and equitable society by breaking down barriers and advancing the potential of women and girls through transformative litigation, policy advocacy, and education. We prioritize women's health and wellbeing, including equitable access to menstrual products.

For these reasons, the California Women's Law Center supports AB 367.

Sincerely,

Betsy Butler Executive Director

Betsy Butler

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