File No. <u>230717</u>

Committee Item No. Board Item No. 57

## **COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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Prepared by:	Lisa Lew	Date:	June 9, 2023
Prepared by:		Date:	

FILE NO. 230717

**RESOLUTION NO.** 

1	[Supporting California State Senate Bill No. 260 (Menjivar) - Menstrual Equity Act of 2023]
2	
3	Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill No. 260, the Menstrual Equity Act of
4	2023, authored by State Senator Caroline Menjivar, to expand CalWorks to cover
5	menstrual hygiene product purchases.
6	
7	WHEREAS, Menstrual inequities exist across California for our most vulnerable
8	communities and create financial barriers and obstacles for menstruating people on daily
9	activities; and
10	WHEREAS, A national study performed by Alliance for Period Supplies showed
11	inaccessibility to menstrual hygiene products has led to one in three low-income menstruating
12	people missing work, school, or other important commitments; and
13	WHERAS, Rising costs and the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have compounded
14	the issue, and according to a YouGov survey conducted in 2021, 2 in 5 menstruating people
15	cited a lack of income as a barrier to purchasing menstrual hygiene products such as tampons
16	or pads and are forced to resort to less sanitary or healthy options; and
17	WHEREAS, YouGov's research also documented how a lack of access to menstrual
18	hygiene products disproportionately affects Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)
19	communities and 23% of Black and 24% of Latina respondents stated that they "strongly
20	agreed" with struggling to afford period products in the past year; and
21	WHEREAS, Along with the possibility of physical complications, including infection, the
22	mental health toll on a person with lack of access to menstrual hygiene projects can be great
23	and result in anxiety and depression; and
24	
25	

WHEREAS, Period poverty is linked with food insecurity and mental health, specifically
 68.1% of those experiencing period poverty also report symptoms of moderate or severe
 depression; and

WHEREAS, Current federal aid, delivered through CalWORKs, assists eligible families
with cash aid and services according to their needs but does not allow purchasing of
menstrual hygiene products such as tampons, sanitary napkins, or cleansing wipes; and
WHEREAS, Approximately 318,000 families with children received vital assistance
under CalWORKs, and this number is projected to increase considerably in 2023 due to

9 economic uncertainties; and

WHEREAS, While California has addressed some financial needs for low-income
 families such as allocation for diapers, financial burdens still exist Menstruating people should
 not miss work or be hindered from performing family duties because they cannot afford
 essential products; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 260 (SB 260), authored by State Senator Caroline
Menjivar, will close an equity gap within the CalWORKs program to include purchasing of
menstrual hygiene products for any menstruating persons between the ages of 10 and 55
years of age; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby supports California
19 Senate Bill No. 260, the Menstrual Equity Act of 2023, and urges the California State
20 Legislature to pass this bill to expand the CalWORKs program to include the purchasing of
21 menstrual hygiene products; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the California State Assembly and the California State Senate as well as the Bill's primary sponsor, State Senator Caroline Menjivar.

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## **Introduction Form**

(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):  $\square$ 1. For reference to Committee (Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment)  $\square$ 2. Request for next printed agenda (For Adoption Without Committee Reference) (Routine, non-controversial and/or commendatory matters only)  $\square$ 3. Request for Hearing on a subject matter at Committee Request for Letter beginning with "Supervisor 4. inquires..." 5. City Attorney Request Call File No.  $\square$ 6. from Committee. Budget and Legislative Analyst Request (attached written Motion) 7. Substitute Legislation File No.  $\square$ 8. Reactivate File No. 9.  $\square$ Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the Board on 10. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following (please check all appropriate boxes): □ Small Business Commission □ Ethics Commission □ Youth Commission □ Building Inspection Commission □ Human Resources Department □ Planning Commission General Plan Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):  $\Box$  Yes  $\square$  No (Note: For Imperative Agenda items (a Resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Agenda Form.) Sponsor(s): Subject: Long Title or text listed: