

Issue Guide Period Poverty

The ACP Wisconsin Chapter Health and Public Policy Committee has prepared issue guide on ACP health policy positions



What is period poverty?

Period poverty refers to the social, economic, political and cultural barriers to menstrual products, education and sanitation. 37% of American adults who menstruate say they have struggled to afford menstrual products.

How does it affect people?

- · health issues from lack of access to clean products
- school and workplace absenteeism
- social stigma



What can be done to lessen period poverty?

- Legislation for tax exemption: advocate for laws at the state and federal levels to remove sales tax on menstrual products
- Provision in public facilities: support policies that mandate the provision of free menstrual products in public facilities
- Educational initiatives: studies indicate that access to free menstrual products in schools reduces absenteeism

Where period products are and aren't taxed Twenty-one states tax period-related products. No sales tax Not taxed Taxed

Notes: Washington, D.C. does not tax tampons - however, many cities and counties impose their own sales taxes, which may include tampons.





- STAMP (Stop Taxes Against Menstrual Products) H.R. 7905 would make it unlawful for states to tax menstrual products
- Period Proud Act H.R. 4475 would provide funding through the Social Services block grant program to provide low-income menstruating individuals with access to period supplies
- Encourage Wisconsin legislative candidates to support measures to reduce period poverty, such as the 2023 Wisconsin Senate bill 219 which proposed a sales and use tax exemption for menstrual products and diapers.

ACP supports equitable access to menstrual hygiene products