

# House File 543 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 543

BY YOUNG

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for access to feminine hygiene products in  
2 public school restrooms and making an appropriation.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1     Section 1. NEW SECTION.   **279.87 Access to feminine hygiene**  
2 **products — restrooms — appropriation.**

3     1. The board of directors of a school district shall ensure  
4 that feminine hygiene products can be accessed by students  
5 without cost in at least half of the restrooms in school  
6 buildings in the district where students in grades six through  
7 twelve are educated and that the supply of feminine hygiene  
8 products is refilled regularly. For purposes of this section,  
9 "*feminine hygiene products*" means sanitary napkins, tampons, or  
10 other similar items used for feminine hygiene.

11    2. There is appropriated annually from the general fund  
12 of the state to the department of education for the period  
13 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028, an amount  
14 necessary to fund the full cost of compliance with this  
15 section by school districts. The department shall establish  
16 processes for school districts to submit the documented  
17 cost of compliance with this section to the department on a  
18 quarter, trimester, or semester basis and for the department  
19 to reimburse school districts for such costs. The department  
20 may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to administer this  
21 subsection. This subsection is repealed July 1, 2028.

22    Sec. 2. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance  
23 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring  
24 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall be  
25 paid by a school district from funds appropriated by section  
26 279.84, subsection 2, as enacted by this Act, and, for school  
27 years beginning on or after July 1, 2028, from state school  
28 foundation aid received by the school district under section  
29 257.16. This specification of the payment of the state cost  
30 shall be deemed to meet all of the state funding-related  
31 requirements of section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional  
32 state funding shall be necessary for the full implementation of  
33 this Act by and enforcement of this Act against all affected  
34 school districts.

35                                   EXPLANATION

1           The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
2           the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

3       This bill requires school boards to ensure that feminine  
4 hygiene products can be accessed by students without cost in at  
5 least half of the restrooms in school buildings in the district  
6 where students in grades 6 through 12 are educated and that the  
7 supply of feminine hygiene products is refilled regularly. The  
8 bill defines "feminine hygiene products" as sanitary napkins,  
9 tampons, or other similar items used for feminine hygiene.  
10      The bill appropriates an amount necessary to fund the full  
11 cost of compliance with the bill by school districts from the  
12 general fund of the state to the department of education for  
13 the period beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028.  
14 The bill directs the department to establish processes for  
15 school districts to submit the documented cost of compliance  
16 to the department and for the department to reimburse school  
17 districts for such costs.  
18      The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code  
19 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of  
20 any state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school  
21 district from funds appropriated by the bill, and, for school  
22 years beginning on or after July 1, 2028, from state school  
23 foundation aid received by the school district under Code  
24 section 257.16. The specification is deemed to constitute  
25 state compliance with any state mandate funding-related  
26 requirements of Code section 25B.2. The inclusion of this  
27 specification is intended to reinstate the requirement of  
28 political subdivisions to comply with any state mandates  
29 included in the bill.