



## Tampons, pads would be provided free to incarcerated women under bill passed by Ohio House

*Women incarcerated in jails and prisons would have access to free tampons and pads under a bill that cleared the Ohio House on Wednesday*

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Women incarcerated in jails and prisons will have access to free tampons and pads under a bill that cleared the Ohio House on Wednesday.

The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction already provides the supplies for free as a matter of policy. The state incarcerates about 3,600 females.

Ohio's 89 full-service jails incarcerate about 16,000 people on any given day, a fraction of whom are female.

State standards that jails are supposed to follow require that incarcerated people in general population are given items including soap, toothpaste and feminine hygiene products.

The bill also requires prisons and jails to allow women a daily shower while menstruating, regardless of their security status.

State Rep. Latyna Humphrey, D-Columbus, the bill sponsor, said in her testimony that while the prison policies provides for free products, it's better to have the requirement in state law.

The sanitary products requirement was rolled into a Senate bill that cleared the House floor Wednesday by a 73-4 vote. The legislation returns to the Senate for consideration of House changes.

<https://www.dispatch.com/story/news/crime/2024/12/11/ohio-advances-bill-to-require-free-tampons-and-pads-for-inmates/76923877007/>