

**A RESOLUTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, KENTUCKY, TO REQUEST THAT FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCT DISPENSERS BE PLACED IN ALL WOMEN'S RESTROOMS ACROSS CAMPUS**

**WHEREAS:** Northern Kentucky University (NKU) has a vested interest in maintaining the health and well-being of all students, faculty, and staff as well as ensuring proper sanitary conditions across campus, and

**WHEREAS:** According to FreeTheTampons.org, 86% of women (not counting intersex, non-binary, and transgender individuals) have experienced the start of their menstrual flow unexpectedly in a public setting without access to the necessary hygiene supplies, and

**WHEREAS:** Feminine hygiene product dispensers are currently only placed sporadically around campus, with their precise locations being known only to a few; this placement has been determined as ineffective in serving the women of the campus community should an emergency situation arise, and

**WHEREAS:** Approximately 85% of all NKU students commute to campus, leaving these students with limited options such as an unfeasibly lengthy drive home, walking across campus to the Office of Health, Counseling, and Student Wellness during business hours, or Fuel NKU in the case of unexpectedly experiencing the onset of their menstrual or running out of necessary supplies while on campus as the situation stands now, and

**WHEREAS:** Such product dispensers are as essential to the health of women and the sanitary conditions across campus as much as soap, paper towel, and toilet paper dispensers, and

**WHEREAS:** While soap, toilet paper, and paper towel dispensers are replaced if damaged or stolen, feminine product dispensers were removed from the Science Center building after being vandalized well over ten years ago and never replaced, and

**WHEREAS:** The Student Government Association of the University of Louisville has already succeeded in calling for and installing such dispensers on both their main campus as well as all satellite campuses, while additionally filling all such dispensers with free products, and

**WHEREAS:** Condoms, while essential to the sexual health of students, are not biologically necessary for sexual relations to occur yet are provided free of charge to the student body by the Office of Health, Counseling, and Student Wellness while the entirety of biologically necessary feminine hygiene product dispensers on campus remain, and will remain, coin-operated, and

**WHEREAS:** This perceived inequality among products and product dispensers raises possible concerns over sexism and discrimination, and it remains vital to ensure that NKU not be perceived as participating in sex discrimination, and

**WHEREAS:** Currently there are thirty-five women's restrooms on campus that need a feminine hygiene product dispenser installed in them at a cumulative estimated cost of \$6,788.60, with an additional cost of roughly \$0.05 per individual product as it stands now, a cost offset by a change-in-vendor over the winter break that allowed for new, free soap dispensers across all campus restrooms saving approximately \$3,700 with cheaper, safer, and greener (Greenseal) soap product, with an estimated \$4,000 to be saved by the same change-of-vendor with regard to hand sanitizer stations and Greenseal product occurring in the near future, and

WHEREAS: Additionally, Andy Meeks, Director of Business Operations, has stated that a contract could be formed with an outside product company in which the company “rents” the right to sell their products via their own dispensers at little to no additional cost to NKU; in fact, Meeks stated that NKU could even turn a profit with such a contract, and

WHEREAS: While matters of costs and potential profit are important and must be discussed, it must be remembered at all times that this fundamentally remains an issue of essential, guaranteed equal rights pertaining to the participation in, receiving the benefits of, and protection against potential discrimination in enjoying full and uninhibited access to educational opportunities, and

WHEREAS: Bill Moulton, Assistant Director of Facilities Services, expressed severe concern, shock, and surprise that NKU doesn’t already offer these biologically necessary dispensers in every women’s restroom, expressed an intent to seek the funding to provide said dispensers in every women’s restroom regardless of SGA action, while also adding that, “We’re not just here to spend money, but to improve the campus,” and

WHEREAS: Future iterations of the SGA, as well as the general NKU community as a whole, should strongly consider the installation of additional product dispensers in all gender-neutral bathrooms for full inclusivity of intersex, non-binary, and transgender individuals who also require such biologically necessary products.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, ON THIS SIXTEENTH DAY OF APRIL 2018 THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY REQUESTS THAT FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCT DISPENSERS BE PLACED IN ALL WOMEN’S RESTROOMS ACROSS CAMPUS

Signed: Hannah Edelen  
Hannah Edelen, President

Attest: Adam Zarnowski  
Adam Zarnowski, Senator

Shelby Sanford  
Shelby Sanford, Senator

Rebecca Ammerman  
Rebecca Ammerman, Senator