

Lori Stegmann
Multnomah County Commissioner
Representing East County, District 4



3/16/2021
House Committee on Education
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Alonso Leon, Vice Chairs Neron & Weber, and members of the Committee,

As the commissioner representing much of East Multnomah County I am very familiar with the challenges that too many in my district face to have their basic needs met. My district begins at East 148th Street in Portland and extends all the way out to the Hood River County line and includes the cities of Gresham, Fairview, Troutdale, Wood Village, Corbett and the unincorporated areas through Bonneville.

Intergenerational poverty has deep roots in District 4, and I am writing this letter to express my sincere support for HB 3294, The Menstrual Dignity Act. 1 in 5 people who menstruate cannot afford menstrual products every month. These essential products need to be readily available to anyone who needs them. 1 in 4 students miss class due to menstruation.

As we work to improve graduation rates and school attendance the passage of this bill would be one more way to reduce barriers for students.

Period poverty has gone unaddressed for far too long. It's time for us to acknowledge it and do something about it. I urge you to support HB 3294 and hope you will join me to support it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lori Stegmann".

Commissioner Lori Stegmann, Multnomah County District 4