Resolution SS 2425-06

24 April 2024

Madison Denchfield, Badin Hall Senator
Grace Lynch, Ryan Hall Senator
Sophia Grierson, Pasquerilla West Hall Senator
Francesca Lichtenberger, Walsh Hall Senator
Lena Dougherty, Director of Gender Relations: Title IX & Women's Initiatives
Samantha Ismail, Pasquerilla East Hall Senator
Justice Walker, Farley Hall Senator

A RESOLUTION TO INCLUDE DISPOSAL BINS FOR MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS IN SINGLE OCCUPANCY RESTROOMS

Whereas, the purpose of the Student Senate per Article III Section 1(a) of the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body of the University of Notre Dame du Lac is to "formulate and advance the positions of the undergraduate student body on all issues concerning campus life";

Whereas, according to a map updated by the Gender Studies Program of the University of Notre Dame, there are currently at least 91 single occupancy bathrooms across the Notre Dame, Saint Mary's, and Holy Cross campuses;

Whereas, these bathrooms are often ADA-compliant and convenient for the use of individuals with disabilities, along with anyone else who prefers a single occupancy space;

Whereas, single occupancy bathrooms are also often the only bathroom for women to use in men's residence halls;

Whereas, as a single occupancy space, these bathrooms must cater to both sexes, which includes providing adequate locations to dispose of menstrual products;

Whereas, women's restrooms contain a trash can with a lid in every stall for women to dispose of their menstrual products;

Whereas, many single occupancy restrooms do not contain a similar trash can, and often the only available location to dispose of menstrual products is the trash can below the paper towel dispenser;

Whereas, it is important to have a separate bin to dispose of menstrual products so that janitorial staff are aware of when they are potentially coming into contact with a biohazard;

Whereas, the World Health Organization deems menstrual health through inclusive access to disposal facilities as a "health and human rights issue;" 1

¹ World Health Organization. 2022. "WHO statement on menstrual health and rights." World Health Organization (WHO). https://www.who.int/news/item/22-06-2022-who-statement-on-menstrual-health-and-rights.

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Whereas, single occupancy restrooms that do not include a proper location to dispose of menstrual products are inaccessible to the female sex and therefore do not cater to both sexes;

Whereas, it is necessary to include a separate bin to dispose of menstrual products in single occupancy restrooms so that women with disabilities and/or female individuals can use them; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac calls on the Department of Building Services to include specific bins for the disposal of menstrual products in single occupancy restrooms, and that the individuals authoring this legislation will maintain communication with said department throughout the summer to assist with and ensure the progress of this project.

Dawson Kiser

Student Body President