



AAUW – Kentucky Policy Statement on Proposed Legislation in the Kentucky General Assembly:

SUPPORT: [SB 38](#) \ [HB 428\(BR-107\)](#) \ [SB 99\(BR-473\)](#)

February 6, 2024

[SB 38](#) SUMMARY: Create a new section of [KRS Chapter 158](#) to define "feminine hygiene product"; require each public school that includes any of grades four through 12 to provide free feminine hygiene products to female students; require each local board of education to adopt policies for the distribution of free feminine hygiene products.

[HB 428\(BR-107\)](#) SUMMARY: Create new sections of KRS Chapter 311 to establish reproductive rights and define terms; amend KRS 18A.225 to remove the prohibition of insurance coverage for abortion; amend KRS 39A.180 to allow the Governor to suspend statutes related to abortion during a declared emergency; amend KRS 156.496 to allow a school district to operate a family resource center that provides abortion counseling; amend KRS 205.010 to permit financial aid for an abortion; amend KRS 205.510 to include abortions or induced miscarriages as medical care; amend KRS 205.560 to allow medical aid payments for abortion; amend KRS 211.603 to allow money in the rape crisis trust fund to be used for abortion services or education; amend KRS 212.275 to allow health departments to dispense medication for an abortion; amend KRS 213.101 to remove various reporting requirements; amend various sections to remove penalties associated with performing abortions; amend various sections to conform; repeal, reenact, and amend or repeal and reenact other KRS sections.

[SB 99\(BR-473\)](#) SUMMARY: Amend KRS statutes and to define terms to allow an abortion when there is a lethal fetal anomaly or the fetus is incompatible with sustained life outside the womb, or when the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest and the fetus has not reached viability as determined in the good-faith medical judgment of the physician; ...to establish a rebuttable presumption that the physician complied with the requirements of the section; ...to provide an exception to the time requirement for consent when the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest; ... to provide an exception for abortion counseling when the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest; ... to authorize the use of public funds for abortion when the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest; ...to conform; make technical corrections; provide that the Act may be cited as Hadley's Law.

AAUW trusts that everyone can make informed choices about their reproductive lives within the dictates of their moral and religious beliefs. Further, we believe these deeply personal decisions should be made without government interference.

Access to family planning and a full range of reproductive health services enhances an individual's reproductive choices—which leads to improvements in women's health care and economic security. The ability to control when to start a family has been linked to significant increases in women's wages and increased likelihood of educational attainment. Unfortunately, lawmakers have severely limited peoples' fundamental power to control their own reproductive lives.

AAUW fights to remove barriers and biases that stand in the way of gender equity. Our public policy priorities underscore AAUW's mission to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. We support

- Self-determination of one's reproductive health decisions
- Access to quality, affordable health care, including insurance, and comprehensive family planning services, including expansion of patients' rights
- Affordable and accessible reproductive, prenatal and postpartum medical services. Removes gender, racial and other disparities in health access, treatment, and outcomes

AAUW Kentucky supports SB 38, HB 428, and SB 99, and affirms its commitment to the women and girls of the Commonwealth.