



The Sanitary Product Service Scheme Bill 2019 (NSW)

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The Sanitary Product Service Scheme Bill 2019 (NSW)

A Bill for

An Act for the provision of feminine hygiene products for women in need.

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EXPLANATORY NOTES:

The issue of female homelessness has witnessed the increased prevalence of cases where women are choosing to leave or being forced out of their homes for improvised dwellings, tents or sleeping out on the streets due to factors including domestic/family violence, unemployment, drug and alcohol abuse and unstable financial conditions. It was reported in the 2016 Census that there were 116, 427 people experiencing homelessness with around 41% of these being women¹.

These women, like all people experiencing homelessness, undergo immense physical and mental stress due to their various situations. However, females have the additional burden of accessing sanitary/feminine products during times of menstruation. Sanitary products are expensive items that are considered to be luxuries by those experiencing homelessness when they should be considered as necessities. With the average cost of sanitary pads and tampons being greater than five Australian dollars a packet, women experiencing homelessness or financial instability struggle to balance other essential items with sanitary products. Other resources such as food, water, clothing and shelter provisions are prioritised over adequate sanitary products, especially by women experiencing homelessness due to issues such as domestic violence or family breakdown. These women are often also caring for young children and will prioritise obtaining resources for their children. Women without adequate sanitary items will improvise solutions such as using toilet paper, old rags, socks, newspaper, plastic bags and towels as alternatives to unaffordable sanitary items.

However the access to adequate sanitary products is not the only issue these women face, as these women then must find the privacy to change/dispose products and/or to clean soiled clothing (which is often done without soap and with dirty water). These unhygienic conditions can result in reproductive tract infections such as urinary tract infections, yeast infections, and vulvar contact dermatitis². Such infections place a person who is already enduring substantial hardship under greater stress and due to the general lack of resources available to these people, their situation goes unattended and therefore becomes worse. Not only are there physical repercussions for insufficient hygiene during times of menstruation but there are also mental ones. The failure of having sanitary products (or period poverty) has been proven to cause higher risks of depression and/or anxiety because it disempowers women and causes them to feel ashamed/embarrassed of their natural biological process³. These women must deal with the constant stress and paranoia of sleeping rough on their period and being degraded to cleaning their soiled clothing and maintaining their personal hygiene in unclean, public washrooms.

The ingrained stigma and taboo nature of menstruation and access to sanitary products is slowly changing as there is an increasing recognition of the importance of women's health. Around the world, governments are giving school students access to free period products and are deeming

¹ Abs.gov.au. (2016). 2049.0 - Census of Population and Housing: Estimating homelessness, 2016. [online] Available at: <https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/2049.0>

² PARRILLO, A. and FELLER, E. (2017). *Menstrual hygiene plight of homeless women, a public health disgrace*. [online] Rimed.org. Available at: <http://www.rimed.org/rimedicaljournal/2017/12/2017-12-14-pov-parrillo.pdf>

³ Elsworthy, E. (2018). *Women who experience period poverty 'more likely to suffer anxiety or depression'*. [online] The Independent. Available at: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/health/period-poverty-anxiety-depression-study-women-mental-health-sanitary-products-a8452581.html>

them to be 'as essential as toilet paper'⁴. Moreover, in Australia, on the 1st of January 2019, after over a decade of lobbying and campaigning the luxury tax was taken off feminine products. These systematic changes accentuate the evolving perspective of people towards sanitary items and the diminishing stigma. However, the benefits of this slow change should not just be limited to those of a privileged background; all women, no matter what their financial capabilities are, should have access to adequate sanitary products because they are a necessity, not a luxury. For this reason *The Sanitary Product Service Scheme Bill 2019 (NSW)*, aims to provide sanitary items for all women in New South Wales who do not have access to such items due to various reasons, such as homelessness and financial instability. The Bill aims to establish a scheme wherein which 'safe centres' are built where women can register for the scheme and receive free sanitary items. The creation of this scheme endeavours to reduce the mental and physical burden placed on women experiencing homelessness. Women should not have to choose between being hygienic and comfortable during their menstruation period or eating. Sanitary products are not a luxury, they are a necessity.

⁴ Sanchez, E. and Rodriguez, L. (2019). *Period Poverty: Everything You Need to Know*. [online] Global Citizen. Available at: <https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/period-poverty-everything-you-need-to-know/> .

Part One

1 Short Title

This bill may be cited as The Sanitary Product Service Scheme 2019 (NSW)

2 Long Title

A bill for an Act to establish a Sanitary Product Service Scheme which establishes an organisation under the purview of the New South Wales Government, allowing women experiencing homelessness or women in financially strained circumstances, to be eligible for free sanitary products in New South Wales.

3 Commencement

This bill shall commence at the beginning of the year 2020, following Royal Assent from the Youth Governor.

4 Objectives

- a. To alleviate the difficulties of homelessness for women through the free provision of feminine care products
- b. To establish a single, government-funded organisation that assists the distribution of these basic necessities to maintain and protect every female's hygiene
- c. To implement a widespread awareness campaign on media platforms that increases the accessibility of the supply of these hygienic products in the hands of women in need
- d. To create a long term health plan for women in need, that they may have access to these services indefinitely
- e. To create a safe and transparent location for women to receive these products and support without fear or prejudice
- f. To ensure the protection of women's health regardless of living situation and income level

5 Definitions

- (1) **Sanitary items** shall mean all disposable and reusable items that can be used by women while menstruating, experiencing vaginal discharge, recovering from giving birth, experiencing a miscarriage or abortion, recovering from gynecological surgery or any other situation that results in a flow of blood or discharge from the vagina. The purpose of a sanitary item is to maintain hygiene and prevent the bodily function from

affecting their daily lives. Some examples include a pad, liner, tampon and menstrual cup.⁵

- (2) **Homelessness** shall mean a person who does not have suitable accommodation and their current living arrangement is in a dwelling that is inadequate, that has no tenure, has a short tenure that cannot be extended or does not allow them to have control of and access to space for social relations.⁶
- (3) **Pharmacies** shall mean a shop, clinic or area of a hospital where medicinal drugs are sold and often also prepared, preserved and compounded. All pharmacies have a pharmacist, who is a person qualified to prepare and dispense prescription drugs.⁷
- (4) **Menstruation** shall mean the periodic discharge of blood and mucosal tissue from the uterus, occurring approximately monthly from puberty to menopause in non-pregnant women.⁸
- (5) **Menstruation cups** shall mean bell shaped sanitary products that are usually made from medical grade silicone or rubber. A menstrual cup is placed inside the vaginal cavity of women and it collects blood, discharge or any other bodily function that flows from the vagina. Menstrual cups are reusable (simply wash with hot water after use), they can last up to 12 hours and come in two different cup sizes.⁹
- (6) **Tampon** shall mean a plug of soft, absorbent material inserted into the vagina to absorb menstrual blood. It is available in a variety of sizes and absorbencies.¹⁰
- (7) **Pad** shall mean a disposable pad of absorbent material worn to absorb menstrual flow, available in a variety of sizes and absorbencies.¹¹
- (8) **Distribution** shall mean the act or process of distributing; to divide among several or many.¹²
- (9) **Application** shall mean a formal request by the means of a form that must be reviewed and approved to be considered eligible for the scheme.

⁵ <https://educalingo.com/en/dic-en/feminine-hygiene>

⁶ <https://www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au/about/what-homelessness>

⁷ <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/pharmacy>

⁸ <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/menstruation>

⁹ <https://www.menstrualcupsaustraliaonline.com.au/what-is-a-menstrual-cup/>

¹⁰ <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/tampon>

¹¹ <https://www.thefreedictionary.com/Menstrual+pad>

¹² <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/distribution>

- (10) **Registration** shall mean a process of recording details that requires no review or approval to be eligible for the scheme
- (11) **State Government of New South Wales** shall refer to the two chambers of parliament of the Australian state of New South Wales which are responsible for the provision of all those not listed as Federal responsibilities. These responsibilities include schools, hospitals, conservation and environment, roads, railways, public transport, public works, agriculture, fishing, industrial relations, community services, sport and recreation, consumer affairs, police, prisons and emergency services.¹³
- (12) **Schemes** shall mean an officially organised plan or system.¹⁴
- (13) **Shelters** shall mean something that gives protection, such as a building or tent.¹⁵
- (14) **Bill** shall mean a formal statement of a planned new law that is discussed before being voted on.¹⁶
- (15) **Service** shall mean something that the public needs, such as transport, communications facilities, hospitals or energy supplies, which is provided in a planned and organised way by the government or an official body.¹⁷
- (16) **Provision** shall mean the providing or supplying of something, especially of food or other necessities.¹⁸
- (17) **Government funding** shall mean money given by government agencies to non-government organisations and individuals. Government funding comes in many forms; some have strict requirements and must be repaid, while other forms do not need to be repaid.¹⁹
- (18) **Conduct** shall mean to direct or take part in the operation or management.²⁰

¹³ <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/about/Pages/The-Roles-and-Responsibilities-of-Federal-State-a.aspx>

¹⁴ <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/scheme>

¹⁵ <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/shelter>

¹⁶ <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/bill>

¹⁷ <https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/service>

¹⁸ <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/provision>

¹⁹ <https://classroom.synonym.com/government-funding-definition-12081529.html>

²⁰ <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/conduct>

- (19) **Administration** shall mean the range of activities connected with organising and supervising the way that an organisation or institution functions.²¹
- (20) **Eligibility** shall mean the fitness or suitability to be chosen, selected, or allowed to do something.²²
- (21) **Access** shall mean the freedom or ability to obtain or make use of something.²³
- (22) **Good Pharmacy Practices (GPP)** shall mean the practice of pharmacy that responds to the needs of the people who use the pharmacists' services to provide optimal, evidence-based care. To support this practice it is essential that there be an established national framework of quality standards and guidelines.²⁴
- (23) **Improvised dwellings/housing units** shall mean an independent, makeshift shelter or structure, built of waste materials and without a predetermined plan for the purpose of habitation by one household, which is being used as living quarters at the time of the census.²⁵
- (24) **Tents** shall mean a collapsible shelter of fabric (such as nylon or canvas) stretched and sustained by poles and used for camping outdoors or as temporary building.²⁶
- (25) **Sleeping out** shall mean to sleep away from one's home.²⁷
- (26) **Unemployment** shall mean a person who is actively searching for employment and is unable to find work. Unemployment is often used as a measure of the health of the economy. The most frequent measure of unemployment is the unemployment rate, which is the number of unemployed people divided by the number of people in the labor force.²⁸
- (27) **Stigma** shall mean a mark of shame or discredit.²⁹
- (28) **Financial conditions** shall mean the condition one's personal finances.³⁰

²¹ (<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/administration>)

²² <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/eligibility>

²³ <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/access>

²⁴ <https://www.fip.org/file/1476>

²⁵ <https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=1303>

²⁶ <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/tent>

²⁷ <https://www.thefreedictionary.com/sleeping+out>

²⁸ <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/u/unemployment.asp>

²⁹ <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/stigma>

³⁰ <https://www.thefreedictionary.com/financial+condition>

- (29) **Necessities** shall mean the imperative requirement or need for something. ³¹
- (30) **Adequate** shall mean sufficient for a specific need or requirement. ³²
- (31) **Yeast infections** shall mean infection of the vagina caused by a fungus known as Candida. A vaginal yeast infection is characterized by itching, burning, soreness, pain during intercourse and/or urination, and vaginal discharge that is typically cheesy white in color. The diagnosis is confirmed through identification of the yeast under a microscope from a specimen scraped from the vaginal area. A vaginal yeast infection is treated with topical medications applied in and around the vagina, such as vaginal tablets and oral medications. During pregnancy, only the topical creams are used. ³³
- (32) **Vulvar contact dermatitis** shall mean a skin condition that is caused by exposure to allergens and irritants that produce vulvar and/or vaginal itching and burning when there is no infection. ³⁴
- (33) **Insufficient** shall mean not enough in amount, strength, or quality; less than is needed. ³⁵
- (34) **Taboo** shall mean a subject, word or action that is avoided for religious or social reasons. ³⁶
- (35) **Women's health** shall mean the branch of medicine that focuses on the treatment and diagnosis of diseases and conditions that affect a woman's physical and emotional well-being. ³⁷
- (36) **Lobbying** shall mean the act of attempting to influence business and government leaders to create legislation or conduct an activity that will help a particular organisation. People who do lobbying are called lobbyists. ³⁸
- (37) **Campaigning** shall mean to organise a series of activists to try to achieve something. ³⁹

³¹ <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/necessitie>

³² <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/adequate>

³³ <https://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=24474>

³⁴ <https://drexelmedicine.org/patient-services/obstetrics-and-gynecology/vaginitis-center/about-contact-or-irritant-dermatitis-of-the-vulva/>

³⁵ <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/insufficient>

³⁶ <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/taboo>

³⁷ <https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007458.htm>

³⁸ <http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/lobbying.html>

³⁹ <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/campaigning>

- (38) **Luxury tax** shall mean an ad valorem tax placed on products or services that are deemed to be non-essential or unneeded. The luxury tax is an indirect tax that increases the price of the good or service for the end consumer who purchases or uses the product.⁴⁰
- (39) **Objectives** shall mean something that you plan to do or achieve.⁴¹

Part Two

6 The Establishment of Government-Funded Organisation to Conduct Administration

The State Government of New South Wales will establish and oversee the operations of the organisation that will be enacted to administer the distribution of free sanitary products for women eligible to receive this service. This organisation will have centres dedicated to the sole purpose of distributing the sanitary items and providing resources to females experiencing homelessness and financial instability:

- (1) These centres will be established in various locations throughout metropolitan Sydney and in certain regional hubs across New South Wales, in locations accessible to disadvantaged women eligible to use the service.
 - (a) There will be an initial opening of two centres as a trial of the Scheme
 - I. The growth of the scheme will be contingent on the initial success of these centres
 - II. The growth will be monitored through data collection of usage and outreach numbers over a 6 month trial period
- (2) Registered individuals will be uploaded to a database and will be issued with a claim card
 - (a) This claim card will be presented to the centre in order to redeem the products
 - (b) Card will be issued within 5 - 10 days of the registration form being submitted
 - (c) Each card has a unique personalised keycode pertaining to the individual it belongs to, which corresponds with their assigned code in the database to maintain anonymity of the individual's

⁴⁰ https://www.investopedia.com/terms/l/luxury_tax.asp

⁴¹ <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/objective>

- (3) The Scheme and subsequent centres will be funded by the NSW State Government and overseen by the Department of Family and Community Services NSW
 - (a) Employees of the centre will be deemed government employees
 - I. The centre will seek to employ individuals experiencing homelessness and financial hardship as a part of a program to aid those in these positions into self-sufficiency
 - (b) Sanitary products and other resources will be bought in bulk by the organisation in conjunction with cooperating suppliers and will also be obtained through donations
 - (c) The Department must conduct annual reports of the progress of this Scheme in terms of:
 - I. Usage - the number of individuals utilising this Scheme
 - II. Outreach - the estimated number of people that are aware of this Scheme and the organisation/centres
 - III. Success - estimated success of the Scheme in helping females experiencing homelessness or hardship

7 Options of Products Available

Due to the inevitable restrictions of providing only one form of sanitary product, it's imperative to accommodate for the various preferences and requirements of women in the process of her menstruation cycle. By specifically providing items that maintain the utmost hygienity for women experiencing vast hardship in the lack of housing accommodation.

- (1) The products available will include the following items of which are all disposable:
 - (a) Sanitary Pads of differing size and absorbency
 - (b) Sanitary Tampons of differing size and absorbency
 - (c) Menstruation cups of two different sizes
- (2) The distribution of sanitary products will inhibit the following criteria:
 - (a) A maximum of 30 sanitary pads and or tampons per encounter
 - (i) In the case of a medical need for more, or less products- exceptions will be made.
 - (ii) Provisions contingent on personal preference of sanitary item or a combination of options available
- (3) The acquirement of this range of sanitary products will be under the provision of:
 - (a) Participating corporations that specifically manufacture feminine care products and are willing to donate a percentage of their production
 - (b) Donations; including but strictly not limited to supply of individual donors and or Charity Drives
- (4) Environmentally considered options, such as but not limited to biodegradable options, of feminine care products are more favourably looked upon.

- (a) Organic and sustainably produced menstrual products will be widely used, in order to maintain an environmentally sustainable approach to the scheme.

8 Registration Process for Eligibility

All individuals are eligible for the scheme through the process of an informal and unobtrusive registration form:

- (1) The form will entail:
 - (a) Individual's full name, date of birth, city of application
 - (b) Provision of identification
 - (c) Date of validity for access to products.
 - (d) Medical precautions/information
 - I. Menstruation related illnesses resulting in an individualised increase/decrease in need for products.
 - II. Any known allergies
 - III. Any known pre-existing medical issues
- (2) The identity of the individual's registering must remain protected and only used for organisation's database, the anonymity of such a process is imperative to maintaining a discrete approach to the scheme.
 - (a) The data obtained by registration may be used to improve advertisement of the Sanitary Product Service Scheme.
 - (b) Data collected would aid in the conduction of annual reports of the progress of the scheme, in reference to clause 6 section 3
- (3) Registration forms will be available at the subsequent established centres and shelters for individuals experiencing homelessness
- (4) This registration process must recognise and respect the sensitivities of those clients willing to apply, and take a considerate approach to this process in respect to the client's privacy. This form should be designed with the comfort of the clients in mind
 - (a) Clear and concise questions
 - (b) Instructions in relation on the completion of the form
- (5) Optional assistance with the registration process must be available in order to maintain the inclusivity of the Sanitary Product Service Scheme
 - (a) Translation options for those of non-English speaking backgrounds.
 - (b) Assistance in reading and answering questions for those who are unable to do so.
 - (c) Options for those who are visually impaired.
- (6) Once the registration process is complete, applicants will:
 - (a) Have access to the Sanitary Product Service Scheme for three years.
 - (b) Will be able to renew this access after each three year period.

9 Awareness Campaign

In effective conjunction with existing health and social welfare services under the jurisdiction of non-government and government departments, the employment of strategic marketing will officially introduce this new establishment to the whole of NSW.

- (1) The scheme will be specifically targeted towards:
 - (a) Women in disadvantaged situations, in need of menstrual products.
 - (b) Women of low socio-economic background
- (2) This will entail advertising in areas of predominantly low socio-economic status including rural and regional areas as well as urban.

With a strong aim of ensuring the accessibility of this new and unknown establishment, the advertising scheme will be geared towards providing the below types of advertisement, in regions particularly frequented by women of the above descriptions.

- (3) The scheme will involve the mechanisms of:
 - (a) Social Media Platforms
 - (b) Public Transport Displays; including but not limited to the exteriors of:
 - I. Buses
 - II. Trains
 - III. Light Rails
 - (c) Electronic Billboards
 - (d) Newspapers
 - (e) Infrastructure such as Homeless Shelters
 - (f) Non-Government Organisations specialising in helping women and girls in need
 - (g) Pharmacies, Hospitals and Doctors' Offices
- (4) The advertisements within the scheme will inform potential consumers, of:
 - (a) The location of government-funded organisations that participate in the provision of free sanitary products
 - (b) The specifications for eligibility
 - I. As disclosed in the *Registration Process for Eligibility* in Clause 8
 - (c) The range of sanitary products available

After the successful implementation, consistent renewal and regulation against disrespectful vandalism, the application of these forms of advertisement will instigate the awareness of the existence of such sanitary product services for women.

Amendments

10 Access of sanitary products through pharmaceutical practices

Clause number	6
Existing clause	<i>'The establishment of Government Funded Organisation to Conduct Administration'</i>
Amendment request	<p><i>'Streamlined access of sanitary products through pharmaceutical practices'</i></p> <p>This amendment will enable women to conveniently attain sanitary products at sufficiently existent pharmaceutical practices. The asserted location of this basic facility in the vast majority, if not all, of the electorate will certify increased effectiveness and efficiency in rectifying this pertinent issue.</p>
New clause shall now read	<p>6 Streamlined access of sanitary products through pharmaceutical practices</p> <p>This section dictates the undeniable requirement of providing a successful implementation of this service, through the utilisation of existing resources that are highly prevalent and accessible to women living all over NSW. Pharmaceutical practices including but not limited to <i>Chemist Warehouse, Priceline Pharmacy</i>, etc. are merely examples of these consistent and amply located institutions that already have the means to provide this service of sanitary products to homeless women. Due to the fact that these establishments are existing and volunteering to participate, there will be no added charge in the funding of this scheme. Therefore, this amendment would provide the most viable and pragmatic approach towards assisting the aggregate population of women and girls in need of this basic necessity.</p> <p>Pharmaceutical practices will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Apply to participate in this scheme; with the overall aim in having ALL registered pharmacies included in this not-for-profit scheme 2) Consistently endeavour to provide this service to women in need 3) Uphold their responsibility of protecting the health and hygiene of their female consumers

	<p>All participating pharmaceutical practices must provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Allocated inventory supply of sanitary products specifically for homeless women<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) Sanitary products limited to menstrual cups due to reusability and environmentally friendly factorsb) Supply will be regularly reimbursed by manufactures of the product who are consistently willing to provide a relative percentage of units every month for free to the participating pharmacy2) Clear and overt indication of the pharmacies' ability to provide this service<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) An officiated label displaying certification that will inform female consumers to approach and collect necessary sanitary productsb) Employees of the establishment will provide information to any consumers seeking advice3) Marketing and advertising<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) The exterior of pharmacies are required to provide not only the official certificate, but further digital advertising of this service to enable increased knowledge of this new serviceb) Homeless shelters are to also provide informative pamphlets or guidance posters pertaining to the provision of sanitary products at stated pharmacies within the respective electorates4) Free sanitary items will be accessible to eligible women through pharmaceutical practices using:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) A sanitary items card, similar to a credit card, that allows eligible women to access the sanitary items provided by the Scheme5) (Remaining the same from <i>Clause 6</i>) The Department must conduct annual reports of the progress of this Scheme in terms of the Pharmacy's ability to provide:<ol style="list-style-type: none">(a) Usage - the number of individuals utilising this Scheme(b) Outreach - the estimated number of people that are aware of this Scheme and the organisation/centres(c) Success - estimated success of the Scheme in helping females experiencing homelessness or hardship
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11 Sanitary products restricted to menstruation cups

Clause number	7
Existing clause	<i>'Options of Products Available'</i>
Amendment request	<p><i>'Sanitary products to only include reusable menstruation cups'</i></p> <p>This amendment will enable women to only have access to one sanitary product which are the reusable menstruation cups. Menstruation cups are a sanitary product option that is reusable, safe and environmentally friendly, leading to further benefits when provided to a large crowd.</p>
New clause shall now read	<p>7 Sanitary products provided to only include reusable menstruation cups</p> <p>This section articulates that supplying these sanitary products is undeniably vital, yet should be carried out with a limitation to ensure ease and safety for all homeless women in NSW. Menstrual cups are a type of sanitary products that are designed to be long-lasting, safe and eco-friendly. By limiting the sanitary products being provided in Clause (7) to just menstrual cups, this amendment proposes a more environmentally friendly and reusable method in order to tackle period inequality by providing for the needs of these women.</p> <p>(1) The provision of these menstrual cups will be from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Participating companies that manufacture menstrual cups and are willing to supply their product to pharmacies due to easy accessibility (b) Donations including but not limited to individual donors and charity drives <p>(2) The acquirement of the menstruation cups will be from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Participating pharmacies located around NSW (b) A maximum of 4 menstrual cups will be provided in 3 sizes, large, medium and small per woman in each encounter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Preferences will be taken into account to best accommodate women in need <p>(3) The menstruation cups will be supplied with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Instructions that will delineate how to correctly and safely utilise the product and also suitable recommendations as to how to properly dispose of such items

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) If information is insubstantial to the consumer, further guidance will be supplied in order to maximise the understanding and usability of this mechanism(ii) In relation to people of non-English speaking backgrounds or of disabling illiteracy, the employees of the establishment of provision will substantially assist this process(iii) Information posters allocated around and within the infrastructure will accompany these pamphlets within the product <p>(b) Disposal devices of eco-friendly material</p> <p>(c) Suitable packaging that will allow for preservation and reuse</p> <p>(4) If eligible individual has a medical reason, such as an allergy, as to why the menstrual cups provided cannot be used, an alternative arrangement for access to free sanitary items can be provided.</p> <p>(5) To improve the circumstances of the environment, menstruation cups will be specifically manufactured and distributed with these certain requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) No plastic, BPA or dyes(b) 100% healthcare grade silicone(c) No added chemicals <p>Additionally, all women who choose to utilise this product will be given the above details prescribed on the packaging, to assure the utmost safety of all consumers.</p>
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12 Authorised Confirmation of Application Process Requirement

Clause number	8
Existing clause	<i>'Registration process for eligibility'</i>
Amendment request	<p><i>'Application process requiring specified confirmation of situation prior to provision of sanitary products'</i></p> <p>This amendment will enable women who are homeless or in low socio economic situations to benefit from the Sanitary Product Service Scheme after providing specific confirmation of their situation. This confirmation will be provided immediately after completion of an application form and it will be decided by a standardised criteria in relation to confidential answers given on the application form.</p>
New clause shall now read	<p>8 Registration process to become eligible for the service</p> <p>This section indicates that all individuals are required to fill out an application form to establish their eligibility for the service. The main purpose of this application form is to efficiently and effectively distribute limited resources to as many women in need as possible. After the establishment of provision has received minimal identification and background information of the consumer, the application will have been successful in determining eligibility.</p> <p>(1) The application process will require written, sign language or verbal confirmation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Name (b) Area of application (c) Date of application (d) Details of current income <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Overall income per year after tax (ii) How income is earned (e) Details of current living arrangement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Type of living arrangement (ii) Area of living arrangement (f) Current family situation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The number of members in their family (ii) The number of income earners in their family

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(iii) The number of family members applicant is financially supporting(g) Details of any menstruation related medical problems(h) Details of any allergies <p>(2) The organisations involved will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) recognise and respect the sensitivities of the applicants(b) all details given to organisations determining eligibility and employees assisting applicants in completing application process will remain confidential and the applicants privacy will be respected(c) Receive, analyse and determine eligibility as soon as possible and these organizations are:<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Establishment representatives from pharmaceutical practises(d) Use data collected to improve advertisement of the Sanitary Product Service Scheme.(e) Use data collected to aid in the conduction of annual reports of the progress of the scheme(f) Use data collected to improve access, availability and any other access of the scheme <p>(3) Applicant's eligibility will be decided immediately after application form is completed and applicant is eligible for this scheme if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) They earn an income less than the taxable threshold(b) They earn an income in the first taxable threshold but they are financially supporting one or more of their family members(c) They possess an unsuitable living arrangement such as:<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Living on the streets without shelter(ii) Living in a homeless shelter(iii) Having no usual address(iv) Living in accommodation that does not meet minimum community standards for permanent residency(v) Any alternative accommodation that is deemed inadequate
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	<p>(4) Once an applicant has been deemed eligible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) They will have access to the Sanitary Product Service Scheme for up to 2 years unrestricted, however there will be a review after the summation of these 2 years, where financial situation of woman will be reviewed again.<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) This will be performed, in order to maximise the outreach of this scheme to women in need using an effective distribution of resources(ii) However, if current financial situation remains consistent after 2 years, the individual can continue to benefit from these care products(iii) There is no limit to the number of times that an individual can register for the Scheme(b) Be provided with an access card that will allow them to present this to the counter of the pharmacy and be provided with their feminine care products, free of charge <p>(5) The application will be offered as a written document or in a digital format at pharmaceutical practises that applicants will be able to fill out quickly and easily. If individuals are unable to read, write or have other difficulties completing the form, then:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) An employee of the pharmaceutical practise will assist them in reading and understanding the questions(b) An employee of the pharmaceutical practise will assist them in writing or typing their answers(c) Translations will be provided in a written transcript of the preferred language, including audio and braille translations(d) An enduring guardian can accompany applicant to pharmaceutical practise and complete form under their name
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