



California Alternative Payment Program Association (CAPP)

1435 River Park Drive, Suite 406

Sacramento, CA 95815

Phone: (916) 567-6797

www.cappaonline.com

CHILDREN LEARNING, PARENTS EARNING, COMMUNITIES GROWING

March 2, 2023

The Honorable Al Muratsuchi, Chair
Assembly Education Committee
1020 N Street, Room 159
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 230 (Reyes) Girl Scouts Period Equity Act – SUPPORT

On behalf of the California Alternative Payment Program Association (CAPP), I am writing to express our **SUPPORT** of **Assembly Bill 230: Girl Scouts Period Equity Act**, authored by Majority Leader Reyes. AB 230 will expand on the Menstrual Equity for All Act of 2021 by requiring public schools serving third through fifth grades to adequately stock restrooms with menstrual products.

Since 1978, CAPP has given a voice to community-based programs specifically created to work with income eligible families facing a host of poverty related issues. Originally, these community-based public and private nonprofits were created to support the parental choice of parents to access child care that not only supported their work needs but also provided the critical nurturing and learning needs of children starting at birth.

These programs known as Alternative Payment Programs (APPs) evolved from a pilot study wherein the desired outcome was to promote parental choice of low-income families to secure subsidized child care to a current system where greater family needs are being helped. Today, in all 58 counties APPs exist as a community-based safety net that works with income eligible parents to secure subsidy vouchers that support THEIR choice in purchasing stable, affordable and accessible child care, Earned Income Tax Credits (EITCs), transportation, housing, mental and health care, home visiting, immigration, food, jobs, foster care bridge, trauma informed care and more. Further, whenever an emergency is declared such as COVID or a fire, these community programs are on the front lines helping distribute critical need items such as food, water, personal protective equipment or providing child care access for essential workers.

In understanding the cost associated with period products, AB 230 will allow our poorest families one more avenue to accessing and affording them. It will do this by expanding AB 367 (C. Garcia, Chapters of 2021) by requiring all schools serving third through fifth grade students menstrual products. AB 230 amends existing statute to include students that were not previously covered.

Period poverty and the lack of access to period products continues to be an ongoing conversation, but this bill will continue California's strides towards period equity and expand access to menstrual products. For these reasons, CAPP is pleased to **SUPPORT** AB 230.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Denyne Micheletti Colburn'.

Denyne Micheletti Colburn, CEO

CAPP