

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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# Women In Training Inspires Bill That Would Put Free Menstrual Products In All Alabama Schools

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – [Women In Training, Inc. (WIT](https://www.womenintraining.org/)​[),](https://www.womenintraining.org/)​ a nonprofit organization that distributes WITKITS*®*​ ​of menstrual, hygiene and dental products to underserved girls and nonbinary youth, has inspired Alabama State Rep. Rolanda Hollis to reintroduce a bill in the state Legislature that would require all schools in the state to provide free period products to students in need.

Hollis introduced the new bill, HB-88, in the Legislature this week. It would require schools serving students in the fifth through twelfth grade to make free menstrual products available to students in every school nurse’s office.

Hollis originally introduced [the same bill](https://www.alabamanews.net/2020/02/19/12-year-old-twins-inspire-bill-which-would-provide-free-feminine-hygiene-products-in-schools/) in February as HB-237, but the COVID-19 pandemic ended the legislative session before the bill could come before lawmakers for a vote.

Hollis has brought the bill back in the new session. She was inspired by 13-year-old twins Breanna and Brooke Bennett, who co-founded Women In Training for their 12th birthday in July 2019. After learning that 20% of American girls and women cannot afford menstrual products, the twins decided to donate their birthday money that year to buy products for women in need.

Since its founding last year, Women In Training has distributed more than 1,000 WITKITS*®* to girls and women in need across Alabama.

“I frequently refer to Breanna and Brooke as my ‘sheroes,’” Hollis said. “By their own selfless acts of kindness through Women In Training, they inspired me to introduce this bill that will provide girls across Alabama with the menstrual products that they need.”

Since the pandemic began, the number of girls and women who cannot afford period products has increased from one in five to one in four.

“Women In Training is pleased to have inspired state legislation that would require period products to be distributed in all schools across Alabama,” said Dr. LaToya Clark, M.D., the president and chairwoman of Women In Training, Inc. “This bill will help us achieve our goal of [ending period poverty](https://www.cnn.com/2020/11/24/uk/scotland-period-products-vote-scli-gbr-intl/index.html). As the economic impact of the pandemic is making it more and more difficult for people to get the menstrual products they need, Women In Training is here to help in every way possible.”

WIT’s signature program is the WITKITS*®*​ ​Campaign to provide menstrual products and hygiene items to young, low-income people who menstruate.

Throughout the pandemic, WIT has continued its mission of alleviating period poverty, while observing the social distancing guidelines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to curtail the spread of the coronavirus.

WITKITS® include menstrual pads, soap, shampoo and conditioner, lotion, deodorant, socks, a journal and a hand-made bracelet with a positive message. Since the pandemic began, WITKITS® have also included personal protective equipment, such as masks, gloves and bottles of WIT hand sanitizer.

WIT distributes WITKITS*®* every month to teenagers at [Tears Runaway Shelter for Girls](http://tearsinc.org/bridges) in Tuskegee, Alabama; to homeless women at the [Salvation Army Montgomery](https://salvationarmyalm.org/montgomery/) and Reality and Truth Ministries; to girls in need at [Brantwood Children’s Hom](https://www.brantwoodchildrenshome.org/page/about-us)​[e](https://www.brantwoodchildrenshome.org/page/about-us)​; [That’s My Chil](https://www.thatsmychildmgm.org/)​[d](https://www.thatsmychildmgm.org/); [New Beginnings Educational Center;](http://www.nbedcenter.org/)​ [Common Ground Montgomer](https://cgm.life/)​[y](https://cgm.life/); and to women at [Aid to Inmate Mothers](https://inmatemoms.org/).

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**About Women In Training**

*One in five American girls and young women skip school or miss work because they cannot afford sanitary pads or tampons to stay healthy and clean during their period. To alleviate*

*period poverty, Women in Training, Inc. (WIT) provides monthly donations of WITKITS® –*

*canvas bags full of feminine hygiene products – to at-risk girls, young women and nonbinary*

*youth. WIT also provides educational information programs about menstruation for girls and publishes the brochure, “A Young Woman’s Guide to the Menstrual Cycle.” For more information, see*[​​*www.womenintraining.org*](http://www.womenintraining.org/)