



Schools Insurance Authority

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Accessibility Considerations – Purchasing and Installing Feminine Hygiene Product Dispensers in Public School Restrooms

(California AB 10 - Approved by Governor 10/12/17, Chapter 687)

Summary: This new law, which took effect on January 1, 2018, requires availability of free feminine hygiene products in 50% of restrooms for schools with students in grades 6 through 12, inclusive, which meet the 40% pupil poverty threshold as specified in federal law.

Operable Parts – Purchase and install dispensers with push buttons or other operable parts that do not require pinching or twisting movements to operate. The traditional two-finger twist handle commonly seen on these dispensers do not meet the 2016 CBC or 2010 ADA accessibility standards.

2016 CBC 11B-309.4 Operation. Operable parts shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate operable parts shall be 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum.

Installation height – Dispenser operable parts must be no more than 40" above the finish floor. Remember to follow the 2016 CBC requirements that are more stringent than 2010 ADA Standards. Installation instructions from national companies may reference max 48", which is not applicable in California.

2016 CBC 11B-603.5 Accessories. Where towel or *sanitary napkin dispensers*, waste receptacles, or other accessories are provided in toilet facilities, at least one of each type shall be located on an accessible route. All operable parts, including coin slots, shall be 40 inches (1016 mm) maximum above the finish floor.

Installation location – Ensure an accessible route and min. 30"x48" clear floor space adjacent to the unit.

2016 CBC 11B-309.2 Clear floor space. A clear floor or ground space complying with *Section 11B-305* shall be provided.

Feminine hygiene disposal unit installation (effective July 1, 2018) - If a built-in feminine hygiene product disposal unit is installed, use updated 2016 CBC installation standards for placement.

2016 CBC 11B-604.7.2 Disposal units. Sanitary napkin disposal units, if provided, shall comply with Section 11B-309.4 and shall be wall mounted and located on the sidewall between the rear wall of the toilet and the toilet paper dispenser, adjacent to the toilet paper dispenser. The disposal unit shall be located below the grab bar with the opening of the disposal unit 19 inches minimum (483 mm) above the finish floor.