



BATHROOMS

Legislation that requires access to public restrooms and changing facilities be based upon “biological sex” rather than gender identity, or upon sex as listed on birth certificate. This could be legislation affecting all facilities and/or targeting public schools.

Transgender Texans, like all Texans, need to use public restrooms without fear for their safety or security. Potential legislation would amend the definition of “disorderly conduct” to make it a crime for transgender Texans who have not been fortunate enough to correct their official gender markers, or choose not to, to use public gender-segregated space appropriate to their gender identity or expression. Criminalizing basic bodily functions puts Texans at risk.

Facts:

- 85% of transgender Texans have experienced harassment because of their gender identity or expression, 46% have experienced physical assault.
- 47% of transgender Texans have been verbally harassed or disrespected in a place of public accommodation.
- 17 states and more than 200 cities across the U.S. have passed and successfully implemented public accommodation laws, none have experienced an increase in public safety incidents.
- San Antonio (2013), Dallas (2002), Austin (2004), Fort Worth (2009), El Paso (2011), Arlington (2012), all have ordinances that allow everyone to use the restroom appropriate to their gender. All with no increase in public safety incidents.
- Forcing transgender men, who live their lives as men to use the women’s room and transgender women, who live their lives as women, to use the men’s room creates a public safety hazard that puts those people at risk.
- There are many things that threaten our children, but transgender people using the restroom in peace isn’t one of them.

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