

House State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs

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HB23-1057 Amenities For All Genders In Public Buildings

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Daniel Falk Against themselves	I oppose this legislation as a career facility manager, and construction side, business person, I think it's important for the committee to recall the rape that occurred in a school public building bathroom in Virginia, not too long ago, where a boy, who dressed as a girl was insisting that they needed to go to the bathroom in the girls facility, and a rape occurred. I don't think that you would like to have that on your record as a result of this bill, please consider amending this bill to simply be Gendered bathrooms and potentially single stalls that are non-gendered could work, but I think much more input from school, maintenance and public facility management is necessary for legislators, who are not operating on a day-to-day basis to view these issues and their complexity and needs, should gain much more input from those on the ground Prior to making any legislation that is so sweeping and requiring like this. Thank you.
Joshua Pollock For themselves	I am writing in support of HB23-1057 because providing non-gendered bathroom facilities and amenities for all genders in public bathrooms will help many people, including parents of young children and transgender people, who currently face barriers to finding usable public facilities in many public spaces. This is an easy way to improve the accessibility and utility of our public buildings for all citizens and simply makes good common sense. As a father, I have experienced the frustration of not finding an appropriate bathroom to take my child into when they were young enough to need supervision, and I remember how rare it was to find an adequate baby changing station in working order in most men's bathrooms. I also have several family members, both youth and adults, who are gender non-binary or gender expansive, and I have witnessed their frustration in facing the large manufactured and unnecessary challenge of finding an appropriate public bathroom facility. In an era when public bathrooms are increasingly difficult to find to in many areas to begin with, this legislative proposal would help make those that are available that much more accessible and usable for that much more of the public.
Cynthia Szymanski For themselves	I am writing in support of HB23-1057 as the mother of a trans child. Currently my child has one option to use at his high school and it is far from his classes causing major inconveniences when he should be focused on getting to his classroom. This is just one of the examples of how difficult it is to complete basic functions as a trans person. Let's make lives better not harder and providing non-gendered bathroom facilities and amenities for

	<p>all genders in public bathrooms will help many people, including parents of young children and transgender people, who currently face barriers to finding usable public facilities in many public spaces. This is an easy way to improve the accessibility and utility of our public buildings for all citizens and simply makes good common sense.</p>
<p>Dawn Fritz For Colorado Parent Teacher Association</p>	<p>Colorado PTA Strongly Supports House Bill 1057.</p> <p>PTA supports legislation that promotes the health and safety of our children and youth. This includes protecting students from harassment and bullying, as well as the designation of resources that prevent suicide and self-harm. It has been established that acceptance of transgender and non-binary youth significantly lowers the odds of attempting suicide among them. This bill would create an inclusive environment of acceptance — lowering that risk.</p> <p>Further, PTA supports laws that recognize and protect our LGBTQ+ students, families, and staff from discrimination based on their sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. Requiring new and renovated public buildings to provide access to non-gendered restrooms does just that. It specifically recognizes and protects our transgender students, families, and staff. It protects individuals’ privacy by not forcing them to choose a gendered restroom, and it protects transgender individuals from harassment related to their gender identity and expression.</p> <p>While in Colorado individuals are allowed to use gendered facilities that correspond to their gender identity — this legislation is needed because not everyone fits within the gender binary.</p> <p>Access to gender neutral restrooms in public buildings foster an inclusive culture in which everyone is welcomed and safely able to take care of their needs. This in turn protects the physical and mental health and the safety of everyone.</p> <p>PTA supports this bill. Thank you for your time.</p>