A Resolution for the Advancement of Gender-Inclusive Restrooms on the UM Campus

A bill for the consideration of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student
Government

November 28, 2020

Authors

Selena Bazzi, Josiah Walker

Sponsors

Zackariah Farah, Riley List, Jacob Cohen, Max Stoneman

Whereas, the mission of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government (hereafter LSA SG) is to "actively seek the voices of LSA students and advocate their interests to improve academic and non-academic life"; and,

Whereas, The University of Michigan is "committed to creating a safe and inclusive space for LGBTQ+ students, faculty, staff, patients, providers, and allies: ¹

Whereas, Gender inclusive restrooms provide a safe, inclusive facility for transgender, genderqueer, and gender non-confomrming people, families with children, and people with disabilities who may need assistance; and,²

Whereas, Although city, town, and college campus establishments have become more accommodating to those who identify as gender non-conforming, many people are still harassed in both women's and men's restrooms; and,³

¹https://medicine.umich.edu/medschool/education/md-program/our-community/students-faculty/lgbtq-students-allies

²University of Chicago QueerAction, "Gender-Neutral Bathrooms Campaign: A QueerSafe Initiative" Developed by Brett Genny Beemyn, Director, The Stonewall Center, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, brettgenny@stuaf.umass.edu

³ Transgender Law Center, "Peeing in Peace; A Resource Guide for Transgender Activists and Allies"

Whereas, Transgender and Gender non-conforming people can often develop health issues (bladder infections, cystitis, bladder and kidney infections, urinary stones) as a result of the stigma behind their use of the restrooms they feel most comfortable in; and,⁴

Whereas, LSA Student Government believes the University of Michigan should include more gender-inclusive restroom spaces in both new and existing buildings on campus so that all members of the LGBTQ+ community may have equitable access to basic needs and rights offered by the University.

Whereas, there are no gender-inclusive restrooms in the Bursley Hall

Be it therefore resolved, LSA Student Government recommends that current single-stall gendered-restrooms for public use in all non-residence on-campus buildings, as well as any future construction and alterations of all non-residence on-campus buildings, be changed to be labeled and treated as all-gender restrooms; and,

Be it further resolved, LSA Student Government officially recommends that signs placed on the University of Michigan campus single-stall restrooms be replaced with new "Gender-Inclusive Restroom" or similar signs or removal of gender identification on signs; and,

Be it further resolved, the map on the Spectrum Center website with the gender inclusive restroom locations will be linked on the LSA Student Government website and the LSA Student Government Communications and Diversity Affairs Committees will assist with promoting said resource; and,

Be it finally resolved, LSA Student Government officially recommends that gender-inclusive restrooms be implemented in all campus buildings without one.

_

⁴ Mateik, T. and The Sylvia Rivera Law Project (2003). Toilet training. Film