

October 8 2025

The Honorable Ben Allen Chair, Senate Committee on Appropriations and Rules 1021 O Street, Suite 6610 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Senate Bill 11 - Support

Dear Chairperson Allen and Senate Appropriations and Rules Committee members,

We are writing in support of Senate Bill 11, School facilities: minimum all-gender restroom to student ratio.

In September of 2023, SB 760 was passed, making it required for all schools/school facilities to have at minimum one all-gender bathroom available and accessible for student use. This bill was a huge step forward in protecting students within schools, especially in ensuring transgender students are able to access a bathroom they feel safe and comfortable using. However, simply having a minimum requirement of one all-gender bathroom per school/facility, regardless of size, is not enough.

All-gender bathrooms help all students, not just those who are transgender. Many cisgender children may have gender expression that does not conform to their assigned birth sex, and this can make gendered bathrooms an unsafe or uncomfortable experience for them, as they may face harassment for appearing to not belong in the gendered bathroom they are using. All-gender bathrooms are also oftentimes the only bathroom that Nonbinary individuals feel safe using, and not having an accessible all-gender bathroom can lead to students simply avoiding using the bathroom at all during school hours, which can lead to UTIs and other health complications. All-gender restrooms also provide a safer option for binary transgender students, who oftentimes face harassment for using the restroom, whether they use the bathroom aligning with their birth sex or their gender identity. The polarization around their use of the bathroom has only gotten worse in recent years; in just these past few weeks, a protest was held at Esperanza High School in Placentia Yorba Linda School District after a transgender girl used the girls' bathroom. Having all-gender bathrooms available for student use will help to lessen the prevalence of such issues, as it provides students with an additional option.

Gendered bathrooms within schools have a minimum student-to-bathroom ratio they must adhere to, so the same should apply to all-gender bathrooms. Having only one all-gender restroom required regardless of school size will not achieve the goals of the original bill, as for larger schools, having one restroom will not be enough to keep up with demand and will likely leave some students without a bathroom they can use. Having a minimum student-to-all-gender-bathroom ratio will help to ensure that the bathrooms are accessible to all who wish to use them.

Current legislation requires 1 toilet per 50 male students, 1 urinal per 100 male students, and one toilet per 30 female students. It can be exceptionally difficult to get an accurate count of how many students may need or opt to use the all-gender restroom, as this not only includes Nonbinary students, but also potentially other transgender students, gender-nonconforming students, or even their cisgender peers. As such, having a ratio of students regardless of gender to the all-gender bathrooms makes the most practical sense when thinking of how to properly enforce this ratio while still ensuring those students who need to use the all-gender restroom are able to easily access it. Having more than one all-gender bathroom available at larger schools will ensure that even if one bathroom is in use, a student has another they are able to use, so they will not be losing instruction time waiting for the only all-gender bathroom on campus to open up.

For these reasons, we strongly urge you to support SB 11.

Sincerely,

Jack Anthony Klein (He/They) - Lobbyist

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California Teachers Association