

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025-2026 SIMULATION SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO 11

Introduced by Senator John Laird

October 1, 2025

An act to amend Sections 35292.5 of the Education Code, relating to school facilities

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SB 11, as introduced, Laird. School facilities: minimum all-gender restroom to student ratio

Existing law requires that by July 1, 2026, each school district, county office of education, and charter school must include and maintain at least one all-gender restroom from grades 1 to 12. Additionally, they must have signage to make clear of its inclusivity to all genders, ensure these restrooms are unlocked, and no obstruction to prevent any pupil from entering.

This bill would add the additional requirement that by July 1, 2028 each school district, county office of education, and charter school, including charter schools operating in a school district facility, maintaining any combination of classes from grades 1 to 12 will provide and maintain at least one all-gender restroom for every 300 students, alongside meeting the existing criteria.

Local agencies and school districts will not be permanently burdened with the costs of implementing this bill as the California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Vote: Majority Appropriation: No Fiscal Committee: Yes Local Program: Yes

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 35292.5 of the education code is amended to read:

(a) Every public and private school maintaining any combination of classes from grade 1 to grade 12, inclusive, shall comply with all of the following:

(1) Every restroom shall at all times be maintained and cleaned regularly, fully operational, and stocked at all times with toilet paper, soap, and paper towels or functional hand dryers.

(2) The school shall keep all restrooms open during school hours when pupils are not in classes, and shall keep a sufficient number of restrooms open during school hours when pupils are in classes.

(b) (1) On or before July 1, 2026, each school district, county office of education, and charter school, including charter schools operating in a school district facility pursuant to Section 47614, maintaining any combination of classes from grades 1 to 12, inclusive, shall comply with the following for each of its school sites that, before July 1, 2026, has more than one female restroom and more than one male restroom designated exclusively for pupil use, excluding restrooms designated for pupils in transitional kindergarten or kindergarten:

(A) Provide and maintain at least one all-gender restroom for pupil use that meets the following requirements:

(i) Has signage identifying the bathroom facility as being open to all genders and in conformity with Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations.

(ii) Is available for pupil use, consistent with the requirements of subdivision (a), as unlocked, unobstructed, easily accessible by any pupil, and consistent with existing pupil access to sex-segregated restrooms.

(iii) Is consistent with the requirements pursuant to Section 35292.6.

(iv) Is available during school hours and school functions when pupils are present.

(B) Designate a staff member to serve as a point of contact for implementation of this section.

(C) Post a notice regarding the requirements of this paragraph in a prominent and conspicuous location outside at least one all-gender restroom, including contact information for the person designated as a point of contact pursuant to subparagraph (B).

(2) On or before July 1, 2028, the requirement outlined in section (b) paragraph (1)(A) will be expanded to set a minimum of one all-gender restroom for every 300 students following all requirements previously outlined.

~~(2)~~ (3) A school district, county office of education, or charter school may use an existing restroom to satisfy the requirements of this subdivision if it ensures that all pupils have restrooms that are in easily accessible locations and the existing restroom otherwise complies with the requirements in paragraph's (1) and (2).

~~(3)~~ (4) This subdivision shall be subject to compliance review pursuant to Section 253.

~~(4)~~ (5) The department shall post on its internet website guidance for implementation of this subdivision, including, but not limited to, examples of signage and best practices.

~~(5)~~ (6) This subdivision shall not supplant subdivision (f) of Section 221.5. Use of an all-gender restroom by a pupil shall be voluntary and pupils shall not be required to use an all-gender restroom.

~~(6)~~ (7) This subdivision shall not preclude a schoolsite that does not have more than one female restroom and more than one male restroom designated exclusively for pupil use, excluding restrooms designated for pupils in transitional kindergarten or kindergarten, from identifying and making easily accessible, a restroom for pupil use that satisfies the requirements of this subdivision.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) and (b), a school may temporarily close a restroom as necessary (1) for a documented pupil safety concern, (2) for an immediate threat to pupil safety, or (3) to repair the facility.