

**The Graduate Student Assembly
The University of Texas at Austin**

Sponsors: Samantha Fuchs, GSA Legislative Affairs Director
Sarah Carlson, GSA Representative
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Resolution: G.R. 18 (S) 4 In Support of Gender Inclusive Restrooms on Campus and the Conversion of Pre-existing Restrooms

WHEREAS (1): The University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin) has 79 reported gender inclusive restrooms within 45 buildings¹ out of 182 academic buildings, recreational centers, and residence halls on the main campus²; and,

WHEREAS (2): “UT Standard Template of Owner Requirements (STOR) requires every building to include Gender Inclusive Restrooms. The UT STOR Accessibility Requirements include one single-occupant Gender Inclusive Restroom per 5 floors and requires that that restroom also meet ADA requirements and include a baby changing table”^{3,4}; and,

WHEREAS (3): Many graduate students are employees of the University through teaching positions and research appointments; and,

WHEREAS (4): Through the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration, employers are legally required to “provide all workers with sanitary and immediately available toilet facilities (restrooms)”⁵; and,

WHEREAS (5): “It is the policy of The University of Texas at Austin (“University”) to provide an educational and working environment for its students, faculty, and staff that is free from sex and gender discrimination”⁶; and,

¹ Gender Inclusive Restrooms. Gender and Sexuality Center. Accessed February 3, 2018. <http://diversity.utexas.edu/genderandsexuality/gender-inclusive-restrooms/>

² Building List: Main Campus. Facilities and Services. Accessed February 3, 2018. <https://facilitieservices.utexas.edu/buildings/>

³ Creating a Gender Inclusive Restroom: Best Practices. Gender and Sexuality Center. Accessed February 3, 2018. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pm7BO097pxTNuxvkIFfHfNGIOrXzGeCVhv8OJcSVFmQ/edit>

⁴ Introduction to Design and Construction Standards. Project Management and Construction Services. Version 12-2017. Accessed February 3, 2018. <https://pmcservices.utexas.edu/dcstandards/>

⁵ Restrooms and Sanitation Requirements. Occupational Safety and Health Administration. University Department of Labor. Accessed February 3, 2018. https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/restrooms_sanitation/

⁶ Handbook of Operating Procedures 3-3031. Prohibition of Sexual Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, Sexual Misconduct, Interpersonal Violence, and Stalking. University of Texas at Austin Policy Office. July 10, 2015.

WHEREAS (6): The Gender and Sexuality Center has compiled a list of over 150 existing bathrooms that can be easily converted to gender inclusive bathrooms.⁷ Of these, 37 only require a new, gender inclusive sign, and 104 would need a lock and a new sign. The remainder are associated with gendered locker rooms and dressing rooms; and,

WHEREAS (7): The Gender and Sexuality Center already has gender-neutral bathroom signs available; and,

WHEREAS (8): Converted bathrooms would also provide ADA accessibility, family restroom access, and a place for those who may be uncomfortable using shared restrooms; now,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT (1): The Graduate Student Assembly (GSA) calls upon Facilities and Services to convert pre-existing single stall restrooms which only require sign changes and locks into gender inclusive restrooms; and,

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT (2): The GSA calls upon Facilities and Services to follow STOR Accessibility Requirements and add one gender inclusive restroom per every 5 floors and at least one total per building with the construction of new buildings and renovation of old buildings; and,

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT (3): As more bathrooms become gender inclusive, the University of Texas at Austin will update and publicize the list of gender inclusive restrooms on the Gender and Sexuality Center website for easier access for student needs; and,

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT (4): Copies of this bill be sent to Facilities and Services, the Gender and Sexuality Center, the Office of the President, and *the Daily Texan*.

PASSED by the GSA General Assembly, February 21, 2018

Signature of the GSA President _____ 