

## CUSG Legislative Council

**April 13, 2012**

**76 LCB 06 Gender Inclusive Restrooms Bill**

Sponsored by:

Carly Robinson- Vice President of Internal Affairs  
Isra Chaker- Representative at Large  
Martha Obermiller- Representative at Large  
Emma Harsin Drager- Representative at Large

Authored by:

Danielle Warly- Chief of Staff  
Elle Dominski- Director of Diversity

### Bill History

There has been an expressed need by a number of CU students for an increase in the number of gender-inclusive restrooms on CU's campus. A gender-inclusive (also known as gender-neutral) bathroom is a restroom which anyone of any gender can comfortably and safely access. Gender-neutral bathrooms provide safe facilities for everyone to perform basic functions. Some examples of people who sometimes feel uncomfortable using traditionally gender-segregated bathrooms include trans people, gender-queer individuals, parents with children of a different gender, and individuals not conforming to traditional gender stereotypes. In addition, differently-abled individuals who require assistance and have an attendant of a different gender will have full access to these facilities and will find them beneficial.

60LCB#15 regarding UCSU's (now CUSG) support to institute a capital construction fee to pay for critical campus infrastructure (passed second reading on April 29, 2004) was the first bill to pass through the Legislative Council that included a provision regarding gender-neutral restrooms.

Section 6: Each of the buildings constructed with this fee must have gender neutral/family restroom facilities.

Since 2004, there has been no further legislative progress regarding the construction of gender-inclusive restrooms in student fee funded buildings. For the purposes of this bill, we define a significant renovation to be one that involves additions or repurposing of a space that would allow for the addition of a restroom. Renovations on actual restrooms are actually best, for it is much more cost- and time- efficient to restructure a space with plumbing already installed than it is to add new waterlines.

CU Boulder currently does not require gender-inclusive restrooms or single stall restrooms in renovation projects. Several of our feeder schools in Boulder County have greater

accessibility and quality of gender-inclusive restrooms in terms of single stall and multi stall availability. We, as the state Flagship School, should seek to meet and exceed these standards.

This bill has a two-fold purpose: First, it declares CUSG's support for the construction of gender-inclusive restrooms campus wide; Second, it states that any renovation or construction on a student-fee funded building must include considerations for gender-inclusive restrooms in the planning/design process and gender-inclusive restrooms will be constructed when feasible. We hope this will set a precedent for the University of Colorado to begin making progress towards the inclusion of gender-inclusive restrooms in buildings campus-wide.

## **Bill Summary**

The bill establishes that considerations for gender-inclusive restrooms be made in all future constructions and renovations in student-fee funded buildings. This bill represents CUSG's support for the construction of gender-inclusive restrooms campus-wide.

### **THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED:**

**Section 1:** The University of Colorado Student Government declares its support for the construction of gender-inclusive restrooms across campus.

**Section 2:** During any construction or renovation on student-fee funded buildings, considerations must be made during the entirety of the design process to assess feasibility of the inclusion of a gender-inclusive restroom. If inclusion of a gender-inclusive restroom is determined feasible, it must be constructed.

**Section 3:** Representatives from (but not limited to) the concerned Cost Center, the GLBTQ Center, CU Student Government, Finance Board, and Legislative Council will be included in all gender-inclusive restroom discussions and will be involved in the design of gender-inclusive restrooms. This commission will heretofore be referred to as the Gender Neutral Restroom Commission or GNR Commission. The GNR Commission will meet in the first month of every academic semester to discuss any renovations or constructions expected in the upcoming months. They will then meet as determined by the GNR Chair, a position appointed by the Legislative Council President.

**Section 4:** As Cost Centers develop master plans for their renovations or construction, they will consult the GNR Commission to ensure student needs will be met when the final structure is complete. This will help make sure all specifics regarding the construction of gender-inclusive restrooms will have been acknowledged before the final design is completed.

**Section 5:** The restrooms constructed will be in convenient, accessible, and safe locations. Anything constructed will be ADA accessible and certified as such.

**Section 6:** To expand upon 60LCB#15, a tiered system will be implemented to help assess current levels of accessibility and determine the next desired level of improvement for each building in question.

→Minimum: Single stall

→Preferable: Multiple single stalls

→Ideal: Multi-stall gender inclusive restroom

**Section 7:** This bill shall take effect upon passage by the Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signatures of two Executives or the lapse of six days without action.

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### Vote Count

**04/19/2012**

**Passed on 1<sup>st</sup> reading**

**Acclamation**

**04/26/2012**

**Passed on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading**

**Acclamation**

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Andrew Yoder  
Student Body President

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Brian Taylor  
Legislative Council President

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Brooks Kanski  
Vice President of External Affairs

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Carly Robinson  
Vice President of Internal Affairs