



Massachusetts
Family Institute

MFI Brief

DEDICATED TO STRENGTHENING THE FAMILY

OVERVIEW -HB1577

Again this year, a bill has been filed that would grant special rights to people with Gender Dysphoria* to enter any bathroom, locker room, or other "lawfully sex-segregated facility," they choose, regardless of that individual's anatomical sex. The bill would use the vague category of "**gender identity or expression**"** that was rushed into law at the end of the 2011 legislative session, and is defined as "**gender-related identity, appearance or behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's physiology or assigned sex at birth.**"



What would it do?

1. **Endanger the privacy and safety of women and children** in public bathrooms and locker rooms, opening them to men dressed as women, and also to potential predators who claim to be confused about their sex. There is no way to distinguish between them.
2. **Open all public school bathrooms for use by any gender** without restrictions. Schools K-12 would have to allow children access to opposite sex facilities based on how they feel. The Mass Board of Education has already issued 'guidelines' that suggest this to public schools. This bill would mandate that all schools open their single-sex facilities to anyone.

HB1577 specifically targets restrooms and locker rooms.

Advocates of this bill are claiming that it is necessary to prevent discrimination, but that was the purpose of the Transgender Rights law passed in 2011. This bill is primarily about getting access to the 'lawfully sex-segregated facilities' that legislators, for good reason, refused to include in the prior bill.

A Boston man, who was arrested for refusing to leave the bathroom in a *women's shelter*, was recently awarded \$20,000 of taxpayer money after he sued the city under a local ordinance that made this bathroom policy the law in Boston. If HB1577 is passed, it would allow for incidents like this to spread throughout the entire Commonwealth!

3. **Teach Children in school** that they can change their sex. For example, a teacher in Newton told her third grade class that people can have an operation to change their sex, sending them home traumatized and leaving their parents to deal with the aftermath.
4. **Single-sex school sports teams would be forced to accept student athletes of any gender**, creating chaotic locker room situations and dangerous on-field environments.
5. **Harm businesses** that provide single-sex fitness facilities.
6. **Pressure churches and affiliated hospitals** which admit the general public to compromise their faith. Once same-sex marriage became Massachusetts public policy, Catholic Charities was forced to abandon their 100-year-old special adoption service rather than violate their faith. A Catholic hospital in California is being sued by a man denied breast augmentation surgery.

* According to the American Psychiatric Association Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Gender Dysphoria is the new term used for "transgenderism" or "Gender Identity Disorder." ** According to the Human Rights Campaign, "Gender identity refers to a person's innate, deeply-felt psychological identification as a man, woman or *some other gender*."

VOTE NO ON HB1577. - SAFETY & PRIVACY FOR EVERYONE