



Massachusetts
Family Institute

MFI Brief

DEDICATED TO STRENGTHENING THE FAMILY

OVERVIEW – HB 1589

Rep. Carl Sciortino (D-Medford) has filed a bill 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, which is defined as *"a gender-related identity, appearance, expression, or behavior of an individual, regardless of the individual's assigned sex at birth."*



What would it do?

Everyone should be safe from harm from others, and assault is already against the law for everyone, but this bill would:

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.
3. **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.

HB 1589 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 over a year ago. This bill is just about getting access to the 'lawfully sex-segregated facilities' that legislators, for good reason, refused to include 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 any ordinance that made this bathroom policy the law in Boston. If HB 1589 is passed, it would allow for law suits like this to spread throughout the entire Commonwealth!

4. **Teach Children in school** that they can change their sex. A teacher in Newton who 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.
5. **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, transgenerism is a mental condition known as gender dysphoria. According to Wikipedia, its precise definition "remains in flux" but includes "people who were assigned a gender, usually at birth and based on their genitals, but who feel that this is a false or incomplete description of themselves." It is estimated that 1 out of 30,000 have this mental condition which equates to .003 of 1 percent of the general population.

VOTE NO ON HB 1589. - SAFETY & PRIVACY FOR EVERYONE