

6 October 2016

Whereas, the University of New Hampshire has emphasized through a variety of public initiatives, including the Campus Strategic Plan, a desire to become more inclusive for all community members; and,

Whereas, currently there are only 20 restrooms across UNH campus that do not indicate a gender designation. In contrast, there are 105 single occupancy restrooms throughout 45 buildings on campus; and,

Whereas, in terms of increasing access to bathrooms for all people at UNH in a timely manner, it is most feasible to convert all single occupancy restroom designations to become non-gendered. As part of this conversion, new signs must be created to designate this change, and this must be done in a way that promotes safety; and,

Whereas, access to safe bathrooms matters for health. Transgender people who do not have access to bathrooms where *they feel* safe can experience serious health problems, including urinary tract or kidney infections, stool impaction, and hemorrhoids. Further, some transgender people abstain from hydrating during the day to avoid the need to use a restroom (Schuster et al., 2016; *New England Journal of Medicine*); and,

Whereas, UNH must provide safe restroom spaces for all people, and in doing so, should ensure each single occupancy restroom has signage designating it as a gender inclusive restroom; and,

Whereas, there is campus support for this change: [1] the undergraduate student senate passed a resolution in Spring 2016 indicating that all single occupancy restrooms be converted to gender inclusive restrooms, and [2] a recent poll by the UNH President's Commission on the Status of LGBT Issues found nearly unanimous support for signing single occupancy restrooms to read Gender Inclusive Restroom;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate Student Senate (GSS) of University of New Hampshire that the UNH GSS asks that [1] all single occupancy restrooms throughout UNH be converted into gender inclusive restrooms with signage to indicate they are gender inclusive, [2] this change be implemented by Spring 2017, and [3] all future single occupancy restrooms also be designated as gender inclusive and have appropriate corresponding signage.