

<Organization Letterhead>

<Date>

The Honorable Phil Ting
Assemblymember, 19th District
State Capitol, Room 3123
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1732 (Ting) – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Ting,

<Organization name> is pleased to support your AB 1732, the Equal Restroom Access Act, which would create equity of access to single-occupancy restrooms in businesses, government buildings and places of public accommodation. <Add a sentence about your organization>

Everyone can benefit from expanded access to single occupancy restrooms; the status quo simply presents unnecessary problems for too many people. A Williams Institute study in 2013 found that gender specific restrooms pose serious risks to transgender and gender non-conforming individuals. Many of California’s older buildings were designed and built with inadequate restroom facilities for women. Newer buildings often do not have the capacity they need to accommodate women efficiently either. This results in women being forced to wait or postpone having their needs met while a men’s single-occupancy restroom is available. Further, when out in public, children of a different gender than their caretakers, and people with disabilities who rely on caretakers of a different gender often have no choice but to break a social norm when the only available restroom is designated to a specific gender.

AB 1732 will help resolve safety concerns of transgender and gender non-conforming people, promote bathroom equity for everyone, regardless of gender, and give greater convenience for parents of different-gender children and people with disabilities who rely on caretakers of a different gender. AB 1732 eliminates the fears and frustration that many people experience in restrooms on a daily basis.

Unrestricted restroom access is not a novel concept. Restrooms in homes and airplanes, for example, are not gender-specific. The same is true for portable restrooms, existing restrooms in many small businesses (such as small restaurants or coffee shops), and existing “family restrooms” in airports and other commercial locations. The value of equal access to single-occupancy restrooms is increasingly being recognized. In 2015, the United States Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) named gender nonspecific single-occupancy restrooms as a best practice in the workplace. This bill allows people to use the restroom that is right for them.

For these reasons, <Organization> is pleased to support AB 1732.

Sincerely,

<Name and Title>