

BILL#: SEN-03-15

TITLE: Bill to Install Gender-Neutral/Family Style Restrooms in All Buildings on Campus

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Whereas, the University of Tennessee in Knoxville does not have gender-neutral/family style restrooms in every building on campus, and

Whereas, gender-neutral/family style restrooms are an essential part of any university campus, and

Whereas, gender-neutral/family style restrooms will put us on the leading edge of campus design and provide us with another aspect of campus that will enable us to compete on a national level for our goal of being in the Top 25, and

Whereas, a restroom with the necessary privacy for people with medical assistance, children, disabilities, or varying genders is not always immediately found, and

Whereas, UT students, staff, faculty, and visitors will have more access and options to restroom facilities with these gender-neutral/family style restrooms, and

Whereas, gender-neutral/family style restrooms will allow students to feel more comfortable with the restroom facilities they choose to access,

Be it hereby resolved, the University of Tennessee will mandate having at least one gender-neutral/family style restroom in public areas frequented by students/visitors/staff/faculty (such as Hodges or the Student Union), residence halls, and academic buildings and excluding areas such as parking garages, staff only areas, and panhellenic buildings. The implementation of this plan will coincide with the construction projects of campus resulting in 75% completion by summer 2019. Most future buildings on campus already include a gender-neutral/family style restroom. We propose that buildings renovated before 2019 have at least one restroom converted to a gender neutral/family style restroom. Buildings that are currently under construction or being renovated will also have at least one restroom converted. Recently built and renovated buildings such as Fred Brown Hall will not immediately have a restroom conversion, but will be subject to change upon the first renovation. A suggested financial plan would be

to use Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) funding for renovation of these restrooms as well as general funding from projects completed under budget.