

I am so thankful to the legislators who are here today and willing to stand up for all of our children by authoring The Student Physical Privacy Act and ask Republicans and Democrats to join together and pass this necessary legislation.

I am a mom of three school aged children and this topic became very real for our school this year when parents of a gender non-conforming kindergartener insisted our entire elementary school be taught what it means to be gender non-conforming which quickly led to successfully implementing policy allowing children access to bathrooms and locker rooms of the opposite sex. Over 100 parents have voiced our many concerns with this new policy. We have been repeatedly told by our school administration that asking a child to use a restroom that is “against the gender the child thinks he or she is” is, in fact, discriminatory.

Our school’s attorney boasted that her law firm is helping over 70 schools put this policy in place. Unfortunately, for many schools, policy is stealthily being added to mandate mixed sex bathrooms and locker rooms while parents are being kept in the dark or told this is the law now in accordance with Safe and Supportive Schools Act and Title IX. It needs to be clarified in law that mixed sex bathrooms are not mandated or accepted.

A mixed sex bathroom or locker room is bad for all kids, including gender confused children. Logic and common sense are being pushed aside in order to advance activist agendas in our schools that cause more harm than good for our children.

I am unwilling to put my daughter and sons in harms way and tell them to expect to relinquish their privacy and safety rights at the bathroom door in order to appease a small and misguided minority.

Jamie Knippel