

Statement from a Virginia MN High School Parent

On Wednesday, February 10, 2016, a 15-year-old boy who claims to be a girl walked into the girls' locker room, and while clearly looking around at five girls who were already undressing, began to undress himself in front of them, pulling off his pants and shirt. The five girls, who were in various states of undress for basketball practice, some without shirts or shorts, were shocked and upset by the boy's actions and felt unsafe, so they quickly retreated into the restroom to complete changing their clothes. The boy tried to do it again two days later, but was prevented by one of the girls' boyfriends, who stood in his way.

Parents who lodged complaints with the administration were told that the District is "required by law to allow the boy to use the girls' bathroom and locker rooms." A complaint was filed with the police, but no action was taken to protect our children. A district elementary teacher reported that she was told by the administration that she was required to allow her students to use opposite sex restrooms if they "identified" as the other sex. A female elementary student has even been told to use the boys' bathroom, simply "because she likes to do 'boy' things" and prefers pants to dresses. They claim the law requires it.

The same boy, who has been allowed to be a member of the girls' basketball team and the girls' marching band, has also demanded to sleep in the same hotel rooms with girls on band trips, but he has so far been denied.

The fact is, however, parents have been informed by legal counsel that federal law does not require such a violation of our children, and the Department of Education and the School District have **no legal authority** for claiming that it must permit this male student to use the facilities set aside for females.

We need this legislation to protect our children. Thank you for introducing HF 3396 and SF 3002.

Parent of Virginia, MN, high school student