



Legislation Text

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**Explanation:** Capitals indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

\* **Warning:** This is an unofficial, introductory copy of the bill.  
The official copy considered by the City Council is the first reader copy.

**Introductory\***

**City of Baltimore  
Council Bill**

Introduced by: Councilmember Cohen

A Bill Entitled

An Ordinance concerning  
**Gender-Inclusive Single-User Restrooms**

For the purpose of requiring that certain single-user restrooms in Baltimore City be made available to all individuals regardless of gender; requiring that certain single-user restrooms use gender-inclusive signage to identify the restroom; defining certain terms; establishing certain penalties; and providing for a special effective date.

By adding

Article - Health  
Section(s) 17-101 through 17-106, to be under the new title,  
“Title 17. Public Restrooms”  
Baltimore City Revised Code  
(Edition 2000)

By repealing and reordaining, with amendments

Article 1 - Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies  
Section(s) 40-14(e)(7) and 41-14(6)  
Baltimore City Code  
(Edition 2000)

**Section 1. Be it ordained by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, That the Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:**

**Baltimore City Revised Code**

**Article - Health**

**Title 17. Public Restrooms**

**§ 17-101. Definitions.**

(a) *In general.*

In this title, the following terms have the meanings indicated.

(b) *Gender-inclusive signage.*

“Gender-inclusive signage” means a sign identifying a restroom that does not indicate a specific gender, such as “Restroom,” “Bathroom,” “Toilet,” or a symbol indicating the restroom’s availability for use by any individual regardless of gender.

(c) *Place of public accommodation.*

“Place of public accommodation” has the meaning stated in State Government Article, § 20-301 {“Place of public accommodation’ defined”}.

(d) *Public single-user restroom.*

(1) “Public single-user restroom” means a single-occupancy restroom for public use with at least one water closet and with an outer door that can be locked by the occupant.

(2) “Public single-user restroom” does not include:

- (i) any private restroom in a residence, apartment, hotel, or hospital; or
- (ii) a restroom only accessible from a private room or office.

**§ 17-102. {Reserved}**

**§ 17-103. Requirements for single-user restrooms.**

Any public single-user restroom in a commercial or industrial establishment, a place of public accommodation, or a City-owned or -occupied building must be:

- (1) made available for use by individuals of any gender; and
- (2) identified with gender-inclusive signage.

**§ 17-104. {Reserved}**

**§ 17-105. Enforcement by citation.**

(a) *In general.*

In addition to any other civil or criminal remedy or enforcement procedure, this subtitle may be enforced by issuance of:

- (1) an environmental citation under City Code Article 1, Subtitle 40 {"Environmental Control Board"}; or
- (2) a civil citation under City Code Article 1, Subtitle 41 {"Civil Citations"}.

(b) *Process not exclusive.*

The issuance of a citation to enforce this subtitle does not preclude pursuing any other civil or criminal remedy or enforcement action authorized by law.

(c) *Each day a separate offense.*

Each day a violation continues is a separate offense.

**§ 17-106. Criminal penalties.**

(a) *In general.*

Any person who violates any provision of this subtitle is guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction, is subject to a fine of not more than \$500 for each offense.

(b) *Each day a separate offense.*

Each day that a violation continues is a separate offense.

**Baltimore City Code**

**Article 1. Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies**

**Subtitle 40. Environmental Control Board**

**§ 40-14. Violations to which subtitle applies.**

(e) *Provisions and penalties enumerated.*

(7) **Health Code**

Title 17: Public Restrooms

\$100

**Subtitle 41. Civil Citations**

**§ 41-14. Offenses to which subtitle applies - Listing.**

**(6) *Health Code***

Title 17: Public Restrooms

\$100

**Section 2. And be it further ordained,** That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior Ordinance.

**Section 3. And be it further ordained,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 90<sup>th</sup> day after the date it is enacted.