



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Lili Bosse, Mayor

August 18, 2022

The Honorable Ben Allen
Senator, 26th District
1021 O Street, Suite 6610
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **SB 1194 (Allen) Public restrooms: building standards.**
City of Beverly Hills – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Allen,

The City of Beverly Hills is proud to **SUPPORT SB 1194**, your measure to authorize a city or county to use its local authority to require that multi-stall public toilet facilities be designed, constructed, and identified for use by all genders. Clean, accessible, and safe restrooms are a universal need. Your measure will ensure that the City has sufficient authority to ensure that public restrooms are available to residents and visitors.

California has led the nation in ensuring that safe, accessible, gender-neutral restroom facilities are available to visitors of most public places. California Building Code (CBC) regulates the design, construction, quality of materials, use and occupancy, location, and maintenance of all buildings and structures in the state. Amendments to California's building standards are subject to a lengthy and transparent public participation process throughout each cycle.

Local jurisdictions are required to enforce the CBC, typically through local ordinances. When a local jurisdiction fails to adopt an enforcement ordinance, the CBC becomes the applicable code by default. Local governments may adopt ordinances that differ from the CBC pursuant to express findings that amendments are necessary because of local climatic, geological, topographic, or environmental conditions. To be enforceable, an amendment must be filed with the State Building Standards Commission (BSC).

The BSC has not developed or approved building standards for multi-stall, gender-neutral bathrooms, and this bill would provide express authority for local jurisdictions to set these standards for restrooms in these facilities by codifying specific building standards for local jurisdictions to adopt by ordinance or resolution.

SB 1194 provides clear and express authority for local jurisdictions to require, by ordinance or resolution, public restroom facilities within their jurisdiction to be designed and constructed with single-user toilet compartments and identified for use by all genders. SB 1194 will help cities and counties meaningfully build on their commitment to create safe and accessible environments for transgender and gender non-conforming people as well as people with disabilities and personal caregivers for children and adults. For these reasons, the city is proud to SUPPORT SB 1194.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lili Bosse", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Lili Bosse
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

Cc: The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator, 26th District
The Honorable Richard Bloom, Assemblymember, 50th District
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange