

Bill Number:	W-24-03	Sponsored By:	Senator Zuriel Johnson
Introduced On:	March 14th, 2024		
Voted On:	March 21st, 2024		
Result:	Passed		
Vote Count:	28-0-0		

A BILL TO: Encourage Grand Valley State University to create a gender neutral bathroom online map for all campuses.

**Whereas,** The Grand Valley State University Student Senate proposes the creation of a gender neutral bathroom online map for all campuses; and

**Recognizing,** As a representative and partner of the student body, Student Senate advocates for the diverse needs of the GVSU community;<sup>1</sup> and

Whereas, the GVSU Facilities Services is capable and equipped to create a map for both campuses; and

**Recognizing,** there has already been action by the university to construct its first set of new gender-neutral bathrooms in the Kirkhof Center; and

**Whereas,** this will not be changing all bathrooms on campus to gender neutral, but allow for the ones already on all GVSU campuses to be more easily identified; and

**Recognizing,** Michigan State University, University of Michigan, as well as Wayne State University have created a map as well as directions to all of their gender-neutral bathrooms on their campuses<sup>2,3</sup>; and

Whereas, the creation of a gender neutral bathroom map will be a minimal cost to create and highly valuable to students on GVSU campus; and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www.gvsu.edu/studentsenate/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>https://gscc.msu.edu/trans-msu/restrooms-housing.html</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://lsa.umich.edu/slc/about-us/gender-inclusive-restrooms.html

**Recognizing,** Grand Valley State University only lists the room number of gender neutral bathrooms on All Campuses on their website but has no clear way of showing where those locations are<sup>4,5,6</sup>; and

**Whereas,** a list of room numbers with little context can be confusing to populations who are unfamiliar with either campus; and

**Whereas**, a map provided to show where such bathrooms are located would be helpful to those who use them regularly; and

**Whereas,** an online map identifying gender-neutral bathrooms on all of Grand Valley State University campuses will benefit not only LGBTQ+ students, but all students who want to find bathrooms on campus they will be more comfortable in; and

**Recognizing,** Reach Higher 2025 outlines a shared value to an inclusive and equitable community stating, "Foster and sustain a sense of belonging, promote diversity and respect, and address systemic issues that impact outcomes for those who have been historically excluded from higher education"<sup>7</sup>; and

**Whereas,** a gender-neutral bathroom map will show our commitment as a University to allowing all students to have a more inclusive experience while they're on campus; and

**Therefore, Let it Be Resolved,** Grand Valley State University's Student Senate, acting on behalf of the student body, requests that GVSU Facilities Services create and maintain a map of gender-neutral bathrooms on each campus.

<sup>5</sup>https://www.gvsu.edu/facilitiesservices/allendale-campus-accessible-and-gender-inclusive-restrooms-10.htm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>https://www.gvsu.edu/facilitiesservices/robert-c-pew-grand-rapids-campus-accessible-and-16.htm</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>https://www.gvsu.edu/facilitiesservices/robert-c-pew-grand-rapids-campus-accessible-and-16.htm</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> <u>https://www.gvsu.edu/reachhigher2025/values-32.htm</u>