

SB602/HB905: Universal Changing Tables

SB602/HB905 promotes community inclusion by offering a safe, private, and hygienic toileting option to all Tennesseans.

Sponsors: Sen. Watson (R-Hixson) and Rep. Doggett (R-Pulaski).

The Problem

Everyone deserves a safe, dignified, and hygienic toileting experience.

- Currently, Tennesseans who need access to adult-sized changing tables have to choose between changing in an unhygienic setting (like on a restroom floor) or staying home, isolated from our communities.
- Approximately 200,000 Tennesseans, 4% of the population, needs assistance with one or more activities of daily living such as toileting.
- This issue crosses every demographic in Tennessee, including our veterans.
- It also affects their family members, friends, and caregivers who want to spend time together in community.

The Solution

Universal changing tables help everyone.

SB602/HB905 will ensure new or renovated public buildings have a height-adjustable, adult-sized changing table.

Public buildings are:

- Buildings owned or leased by the state of Tennessee and
- Buildings used primarily by the general public as a place of gathering or amusement: theaters, restaurants, hotels, factories, office buildings, stadiums, hospitals, voting areas, shopping areas, convention centers and all other public accommodations.

The disability community is the one minority group that any of us could join at any time. Many of us will age into this group.

Universal design benefits all Tennesseans.