

Association of American Physicians & Surgeons/Texas Chapter
Dallas, Texas

August 13, 2017

Joe Straus
Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives
Texas State Capitol
Austin, Texas 78701

TxAAPS position on personal privacy for public school children:

The purpose of segregating bathrooms and dressing rooms between biological sexes has been to protect privacy and safety. Children are especially vulnerable in these circumstances and may feel threatened by members of the opposite sex in a shower or dressing room. Children should not be forced to view the exposed genitalia of members of the opposite sex, or to expose themselves, even if some claim that transgender suicide might be reduced this way.

Transgressors commit suicide at a much higher rate than the general population. Suicidal persons need empathetic individual therapy. It is not compassionate to force others to shower or undress with these persons as part of their treatment. These circumstances only create opportunity for predators who pretend to need to be included with the opposite sex during shower time. Transgendering individuals need to be treated with respect, and their privacy should also be guarded. Their identity issues and potentially fragile psychological condition will not be solved by putting others in an uncomfortable or threatening situation.

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