

PRESS RELEASE – January 7, 2017

PFLAG Austin Opposes Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick's Proposition for Anti-LGBTQ SB6 Legislation

PFLAG Austin emphatically opposes the proposed [SB6 legislation](#), billed by Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick as one of his "[Top Ten Legislative Priorities](#)". SB6 is highly unnecessary, discriminatory, pointless, hypocritical, and dangerous.

SB6 is unnecessary because any offenses that might be prevented by SB6, whether perpetrated by men or women, transgender or cisgender, is already illegal, per Texas Penal Code Chapter 21, "Sexual Offenses". Barring transgender women from women's restroom will do nothing to enhance or diminish those offenses.

Legislations such as SB6 are discriminatory because that they are initiated, authored, voted on, and signed into law by straight white male legislators, and target the transgender minority. SB6, ostensibly authored by a female Republican State Senator, has been one of Dan Patrick's "[Top Ten Legislative Priorities](#)" from long before the bill's genesis.

SB6 is pointless because everybody, women and girls included, spend vastly more time outside of restrooms than in. If one is concerned about men's predatory treatment of women and girls, or about "privacy" of women and girls, policing restroom usage will do little to achieve those goals.

SB6 is hypocritical because at the same time that the Texas government rails about "Federal intrusion into local governance", it is intruding into the governance of its own political subdivisions.

It sets a lower standard for the state government usurping locale governance.

It [purports to be about privacy](#), but its Section 2 (b) will also [forbid local municipalities from adopting their own less intrusive regulations on restroom use](#).

SB6 is dangerous because it lowers the bar for discriminatory behavior and discriminatory legislation. If it's a matter of transgender women (who are obviously so) making cisgender women uncomfortable in sharing their restroom, will there be a law mandating that Muslim women wearing hijab use a separate facility because they make white Christian women uncomfortable? How about very flamboyant gay men in men's restrooms?

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