



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Chair Kaiser, Vice Chair Washington and member of the Ways and Means Committee

Thank you your consideration of:

HB 10 - Public Buildings – Changing Facilities for Adult Diapers

As a disabled individual grows to be an adult, families and caretakers face new challenges, among them in the area of hygiene. When a diaper needs to be changed, certainly the facilities at home allow this to be accomplished in as respectful and physically manageable a manner as possible. However, once out of the home setting, the challenges become greater. Imagine the difficulty, not to mention the indignity, of making changing a diaper in a public building - when the only option is laying the person on a bathroom floor. It is probably unnecessary to go into detail as to the personal humiliation, not to mention the physical difficulty.

We can begin to make this an easier experience for everyone. This legislation seeks to require public buildings that are newly constructed or undergoing significant renovation to include adult changing tables.

Additionally, the availability and location of such facilities would be an aid to families and caregivers in planning outings and trips. To that end, the legislation requires the Department of General Services, in coordination with the enforcement entity, to maintain a clearinghouse website that details the locations and hours of public buildings that have such facilities. This will allow anticipation of how to deal with needs as they arise while travelling.

These relatively small steps will go a long way toward improving the quality of life for both the disabled individuals and their families.

Please consider a favorable evaluation of this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Eric Ebersole", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Delegate Eric Ebersole