**2017-2018 ALA CD#42\_62518\_INF**

**2018 ALA Annual Conference**

**Resolution on Gender Inclusive Bathrooms at**

**ALA Conferences and Meetings**

**Whereas,** ALA is committed to equity, diversity, inclusiveness, and mutual respect for all human beings, and works tirelessly to ensure full representation of all members of society;

**Whereas,** ALA as an organization leads the way as a model of inclusiveness for our libraries many of whom do not offer gender neutral bathrooms in our home libraries;

**Whereas,** ALA provides gender inclusive bathrooms at ALA conferences and will not hold large and economically impactful meetings in states where “bathroom bills” have been passed;

**Whereas,** GLBTRT has worked with ALA Staff and ALA Conference services to ensure that gender inclusive bathrooms are adequately marked and located in conference venues;

**Whereas,** at Midwinter Conference Denver 2018 the two gender inclusive bathrooms were difficult or nearly impossible to find;

**Whereas,**the 3 sets of gender inclusive restrooms were not marked on facility floor plans in the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, the site for ALA Annual 2018, and are not in locations throughout the Convention Center that are clearly marked and visible;

**Whereas,** [thus far], at Annual Conference New Orleans 2018 ALA, the GLBTRT has been contacted numerous times by its members when they have been denied access to the few gender inclusive restrooms available to them at conference by convention center employees and observed security guards standing outside gender inclusive restrooms only;

**Whereas,** one of GLBTRT’s members was harassed and did report this to ALA Conference Services and Ernest N. Morial Convention Center security;

**Whereas,** conference attendees should be able to report harassment easily; [Report incidents of *any sort* to Conference Management in the ALA Office; and

**Whereas,** a few gender inclusive restrooms in a large convention center does not meet the accessibility needs of ALA’s members;

***OVER***

**Resolution on Gender Inclusive Bathrooms at ALA Conferences and Meetings/2**

***Resolved***, that the American Library Association (ALA): on behalf of its members:

1. Requests that ALA conference set-up procedures provide as many gender inclusive bathrooms at ALA conferences as allowed by current contracts with the goal being 100%; and
2. Require that convention center staff honor ALA policies regarding gender-inclusive facilities and request that all attendees be treated with dignity and respect.

**Mover:** Ann K. Symons, GLBTRT Councilor

**Seconders:**

Matthew Ciszek, Councilor-at-Large

Sherry Machones, Wisconsin Chapter Councilor

Ana Elisa de Campos Salles, Councilor-at-Large

Peter Hepburn, Councilor-at-Large

Erica Findley, Councilor-at-Large

Ed Garcia, Councilor-at-Large and ALA Executive Board

Louis Muñoz Jr., Councilor-at-Large

Jessica Schomberg, Councilor-at-Large

Melissa Cardenas-Dow, Councilor-at-Large

Oscar Baeza, Councilor-at-Large

Amy Lappin, NH Chapter Councilor

Martin Garnar, IFRT Councilor

**ALA Members**:

Audrey Barbakoff

Megan Drake, GLBTRT Board

Deb Sica, GLBTRT Past Chair

Sukrit Goswami, GLBTRT Board

Benjamin Bradley

Debbie Krahmer

Devin Erlandson

Alyson Feldman-Piltch

Carol Witt

Gina M. Nortonsmith

Contact information to report:  Paul Graller, [pgraller@ala.org](mailto:pgraller@ala.org) or (312) 280-3219)

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