

Alaska Association of Student Governments Resolution #12 Allow the Free Use of the Bathroom without Incentivisation or Pass Restrictions Submitted By: Aidan Duran Submitted: October 31, 2019

Be it Resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that:

- 1. Whereas, many teachers at Chugiak High School put restrictions on bathroom use;
- 2. Whereas, many teachers have an incentivized pass system that punishes bathroom use;
- 3. Whereas, body autonomy is protected under the 14th amendment of the Constitution;¹
- 4. Whereas, the average human urinates 6 to 7 times in a 24 hour period;³
- 5. Whereas, students should be allowed to use the bathroom without any form of public announcement;
- 6. Whereas, students should never need to give a reason or an "excuse" for why they need to use the bathroom;
- 7. Whereas, holding in one's urine increases the risk of a UTI;²
- 8. Whereas, in an adult workplace it is illegal to deny the use of the bathroom to an employee;
- 9. Whereas, teachers can require students to sign out discreetly in case of an emergency (Such as a fire drill or lockdown);

- **10. Whereas,** six-minute passing periods are not long enough for many students to complete their bodily functions;
- Whereas, tampons should be changed every three to five hours to prevent TSS (Toxic Shock Syndrome);⁵
- **12. Whereas,** menstrual pads should be changed at regular intervals to allow the highest amount of comfortability to menstruating students;
- 13. Whereas, students who are in a comfortable state of being are more receptive to learning;
- 14. Whereas, being denied restroom use while menstruating is immoral;
- **15. Whereas,** having to inform a teacher of your bodily functions can be embarrassing and damaging to a young person's self-esteem;
- **16. Whereas,** the California Education Code (CSEA) considers a teacher refusing to allow a student to use the bathroom as a form of illegal corporal punishment;⁴
- 17. Whereas, bathroom use is a right, not a privilege;
- 18. Whereas, restricting bathroom use only perpetuates a society that considers everyday

anatomical functions as taboo;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments supports Chugiak High School will ban the use of restrictive and incentivized bathroom passes in favor of allowing students to go relieve themselves whenever they feel it is necessary.

Action Statement: This resolution, if passed by the General Assembly of AASG, will be sent to the following:

Megan Hatswell, Principal, Chugiak High School hatswell_megan@asdk12.org

Sources

1. "Bodily Autonomy: SexInfo Online." *Bodily Autonomy* | *SexInfo Online*, sexinfo.soc.ucsb.edu/article/bodily-autonomy

- 2. "Urinary Tract Infections." *Womenshealth.gov*, 1 Apr. 2019, <u>www.womenshealth.gov/a-</u><u>z-topics/urinary-tract-infections</u>
- 3. Savory, Gemma. "Normal Urinary Frequency." *Bladder & Bowel Community*, 18 Apr. 2019, <u>www.bladderandbowel.org/bladder/bladder-conditions-and-symptoms/frequency/</u>
- 4. California Legislative Information. "Education Code (EDC): Pupils Rights and Responsibilities: Article 5 - Prohibition of Corporal Punishment." *Codes: Text Search*, <u>https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=49000& lawCode=EDC</u>
- 5. Cornforth, Tracee. "Are You Changing Your Pads and Tampons Often Enough?" *Verywell Health*, Verywell Health, 18 Sept. 2019, www.verywellhealth.com/menstrual-hygiene-how-often-to-change-tampons-or-pads-3522511.

Passed unanimously by the 2019 Fall Conference GA at Palmer High School

AASG Vice President, Forrest Davis

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AASG Executive Director, Denise Greene-Wilkinson