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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill

Referred to Committee: House 2

Authors: Morgan Ried, Emelya Byrd, Emily Dickerson	Action of	Action on the Bill	
School: Thomas Nelson HS	House	Senate	
City: Bardstown	□ Passed	□ Passed	

An act to formulate a Safe Place/Gender Neutral bathroom in all public schools.

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: Safe places costs: Average size would be 300 to 400 square feet and would cost around \$39,207. Sponsors such as: The Louisville Youth Group, PFLAG Louisville and the LGBT Center of Rofl would be willing to donate/fundraise for the costs.

Section 2: While some people may be against spending money on this type of project, it would be very beneficial for numerous students because the number of teen in the LGBTQ community and the number of students being bullied for mental health issues is increasing. Safe Places would be available as desensitization for those with mental disabilities and a calming place for those with anger/anger management issues. The Safe Place would include a single stall bathroom that would be labeled as nongender specific.

Section 3: Statistics regarding Safe Place:

- LGBT students (61.1%) were more likely than their non-LGBT peers to feel unsafe or uncomfortable as a result of their sexual orientation.
- Nearly all Kentucky LGBT students can identify at least one LGBT supportive staff member, but only 41% can identify 6 or more supportive school staff members.
- LGBTQ students had fewer suicidal thoughts and attempts when schools had gay-straight
 alliances and policies prohibiting expression of homophobia in place for 3 or more years.

Section 4: This bill will go into effect June 2017 for the 2017-2018 school year.