

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_/ Senator \_\_\_\_\_:

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am a (parent/guardian/caregiver/friend/family member) of a (person/individual/child/loved one) with a developmental disability. We are constituents in your district. As a concerned citizen, I am writing to you in reference to a public problem that many individuals who are non-ambulatory and require assistance with their toileting needs often face while in public.

Presently, handicapped accessible toilets may meet the needs of some; however, many in this segment of the population cannot properly utilize current facilities of the general public. Standard disabled toilets do not meet the needs of millions of children and adults who have grown and require the use of diapers/briefs as they can no longer fit securely on baby changing stations. Therefore, these individuals are not able to use public restroom(s) in a safe and dignified manner. This means that they are often changed on unhygienic toilet floors or in the laps of their loved ones while sitting on the toilet. Some go unchanged and are forced to sit in soiled diapers/briefs. Consequently, many individuals with special needs and their loved ones may find it difficult to visit organizations due to the lack of restroom accommodations; hence, avoiding patronizing local businesses altogether.

Changing Spaces Georgia is a campaign that advocates for true inclusion of persons with disabilities. Its current initiative is to address public restroom accessibility involving potential health risks, invasion of privacy and risk of bodily harm for the disabled community. I have partnered with CSGA seeking height adjustable adult-sized changing tables and a hoist/lift to be installed in at least one restroom/family restroom of local public and private organizations. This change will also benefit the elderly who may have issues with incontinence.

In an effort to strengthen the CSGA campaign, we are asking for your support in hopes of pursuing a legislative bill that will amend current ADA guidelines, truly addressing reasonable public accommodations. Together, we can make a great impact in the lives of one of the most underserved populations.

For more information on the CSGA campaign, please visit their website at <http://www.changingspacesga.org/> and/or visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/changingspacesGA/>.

Sincerely,

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