

# **Defend My Privacy: Understanding the proposed legislation**

For the past several legislative sessions, some legislators in Pennsylvania State Government have proposed troubling legislation to make drastic changes to our current PA Human Relations Act which covers “discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodation.”

If the special statuses of “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” are added:

## **Employment**

1. Employers would be forced to open their **sex-specific locker rooms, showers, and restrooms to the opposite biological sex in places of employment throughout Pennsylvania.**
2. It would be illegal for religious schools, churches and other religious organizations to only hire employees that agree with the religious organization’s teaching on sexuality, marriage and gender. This **undermines the independence of churches, religious schools, religious ministries and religious non-profits.**

## **Housing**

1. Women would be forced to be paired with men who identify as women (and vice versa) in **dormitories in colleges, boarding schools** and similar settings.
2. Summer camps with **boys and girls cabins** would be treated the same way.
3. All of the women-only facilities (**bathrooms and showers**) in those housing accommodations would be available to men and boys who identify as women and girls (and vice versa).
4. Other housing accommodations like **women’s shelters, homeless shelters, and even retirement communities** would be treated the same way.

## **Public Accommodations**

**All 56 categories of businesses** outlined in the PA Human Relations Act, including swimming pools, amusement parks and schools, would be forced to allow men into women-only bathrooms, locker rooms and showers (and vice versa).

**For these reasons, personal privacy and religious freedom are protected only by preventing this type of troubling legislation from becoming law.**