



*An Act Requiring Universal Changing Stations in Public Buildings.*  
**Co-Sponsors: Representatives Angelo J. Puppolo and Bud L. Williams**

**In Brief:**

True community inclusion includes providing people with disabilities a safe, private, and hygienic place to meet the most basic human need of toileting while they are away from home. Many children, adults, and elderly individuals with disabilities and medical complexities cannot fully participate in our society due to a lack of restrooms with universal (adult size) changing tables. Too often, decisions are made to avoid venturing into the community due to this lack of accommodations. People who require help with daily self-care, such as toileting, have the right to experience and enjoy trips away from home without suffering the indignity and medical risk of being left in a soiled diaper for an extended period or being changed somewhere inappropriate, unhygienic, or unsafe.

In the state of Massachusetts, there are no requirements that public buildings or community spaces provide toileting accommodations for larger children or adults whose disabilities prevent them from accessing standard handicapped restrooms. Baby changing tables no longer support the weight and size of these individuals, while universal changing tables can be used by all people. This bill is a step towards correcting an oversight in current disability accessibility legislation and fuller inclusion of people with intellectual and physical disabilities in our communities and workplaces.

**The Bill will:**

- Require all newly constructed, reconstructed, or remodeled (as of January 1, 2026) public buildings, public parks, rest stops, and all other areas defined as places of public accommodation to maintain at least one universal changing station within an enclosed restroom facility.
- Require signage and that the table is listed and advertised publicly in a directory so that persons with disabilities can plan accordingly.
- Require space within the facility to comply with all requirements of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Allow for possible exemption in cases where the building has historical significance, is not otherwise feasible, or the space is not frequented by the public.



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