

Rep. Vining and Sen. Agard: Announce installation of universal changing station in state capitol

Posted on Tuesday, Mar 28, 2023

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Madison, WI – Today, State Representative Robyn Vining (D-Wauwatosa) and State Senator Melissa Agard (D-Madison) held a press conference to celebrate the installation of a universal changing station in the State Capitol and to bring awareness to the importance of improving the accessibility of public buildings. Representative Vining and Senator Agard released the following statements:

Representative Robyn Vining: “For years now we have said that bathroom accessibility is a public health issue, and a human dignity issue. Wisconsin must be able to welcome all people to The People’s House, and I am thrilled to announce that the Wisconsin State Capitol is now more accessible! We know that when the buildings don’t work for the people, the people don’t go to the buildings, and so it is our hope that with this increase in accessibility, more people will be able to travel to and enjoy the People’s House—the Wisconsin State Capitol. I want to be clear that if it weren’t for Sarah’s love for her son, Matthew, and her years of hard work and advocacy, we would not be here today. I also want to extend my gratitude to Senator Agard whose empathy and hard work made today possible. It is a new day for accessibility at the Wisconsin State Capitol, and for this we celebrate! Forward, *together!*”

Senator Melissa Agard: “Ensuring that our public buildings are actually accessible to the public should be a top priority for every lawmaker. Caregivers and teachers have previously used the floor of my office to provide for the needs of the students and adults in their care. While this is just a small step towards increasing the accessibility of the State Capitol, I know it will make a huge difference in the lives of some individuals and families.”

Representative Vining and Senator Agard: “We are hopeful that the installation of this universal changing station will signify the beginning of people-centered public buildings, and Wisconsin will become a national leader in inclusive and accessible public spaces.”