



Six transgender Idahoans filed a federal lawsuit on Wednesday challenging the state's new bathroom law, which civil rights experts say is the most restrictive in the nation.

The law, which is set to go into effect in July, carries criminal penalties for people if they enter a bathroom or locker room that does not align with their sex assigned at birth in both government-owned buildings and private businesses.

Anyone who "knowingly" enters such a bathroom could face a year in jail for a misdemeanor first offense, or up to five years in prison for a felony second offense.

Idaho's bathroom law is the "most punitive and broadest sweeping law in the country," said Paul Carlos Southwick, the legal director for the ACLU of Idaho. So far, it is the only state to criminalize transgender people's bathroom usage in private businesses.

[More...](#)