

STATEMENT

Frank Mrvan is more focused on radical social justice policies like replacing police with social workers and other far left social issues than creating jobs and bringing back federal projects

Verification

VIDEO: In August 2020, Mrvan Referred To Social Workers Taking On The Duties Of Law Enforcement As “The Wave Of The Future That Is An Equitable Way Of Treating Crime.” MRVAN: “And so, when we talk about the criminal justice system in policing, we want to be able to talk about alternative solutions because when policemen are trained, they're trained to be able to serve and protect, and when social workers are trained, and we understand that, who master social work, there's success stories of us working with people to be able to get protective orders, us being able to work to get them to domestic violence shelters. Those are things that freed the police up to be able to do that and it takes that pressure and psychology of that pressure off the policeman and that I believe is the wave of the future that is an equitable way of treating crime. And, when we talk about the justice system, we have to be able to talk about fair and just laws, and we have to be able to make sure that all of the communities are being heard and that we are working towards common goals that bring justice to all.” (Frank Mrvan, [Remarks At A Progressive Democrats Of LaPorte County Meeting](#), 8/13/20) Minute 27:17-28:11

According To Mrvan’s Congressional Website, He Is A Member Of The Equality Caucus. (“Committees And Caucuses,” [Congressman Frank J. Mrvan](#), Accessed 4/11/24)



(“Committees And Caucuses,” [Congressman Frank J. Mrvan](#), Accessed 4/11/24)



(“About The CEC,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

Congressional Equality Caucus (Official)

The Congressional Equality Caucus Serves As A “Resource” For Members Of Congress And Their Staff Regarding LGBT Issues On The Federal Level. “The Congressional Equality Caucus serves as a resource for Members of Congress, their staff, and the public on LGBTQI+ issues at the federal level. The Equality Caucus works toward the extension of equal rights, the repeal of discriminatory laws, the elimination of hate-motivated violence, and the improved health and well-

being for all regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or sex characteristics (including intersex traits).” (“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

Equality PAC (Campaign)

Equality PAC Is The Political Arm Of The Congressional LGBTQ Equality Caucus.

“Equality PAC is the political arm of the Congressional LGBTQ Equality Caucus and is dedicated to the full legal and societal equality for LGBTQ Americans. All funds raised into Equality PAC are spent supporting and electing openly LGBTQ individuals and strong LGBTQ allies.” (“Our Mission,” [Equality PAC](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

Equality PAC Is The Political Arm Of The Congressional Equality Caucus And Helps Elect Openly LGBTQ Individuals And Strong LGBTQ Allies To Congress Who Are Committed To Passing The Equality Act. “Equality PAC is the political arm of the Congressional Equality Caucus and is dedicated to the full legal and societal equality for LGBTQ Americans. All funds raised into Equality PAC are spent supporting and electing openly LGBTQ individuals and strong LGBTQ allies to the United States Congress who are committed to passing the Equality Act – the comprehensive LGBTQ civil rights bill that would make discrimination against LGBTQ persons in housing, employment, and financing opportunities illegal; addressing LGBTQ Americans’ daily struggles and fears of what could happen to them or what they could lose simply because of who they are and who they love; and to ensuring full civil rights and protections for all LGBTQ Americans.” (“The Equality PAC Mission,” [Equality PAC](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

Radical Positions

H.R. 15: The Equality Act

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports The Equality Act And Its Chair And Co-Chairs Reintroduced The Legislation To “Ensure Explicit Nondiscrimination Protections For All LGBTQI+ Americans”

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 15, The Equality Act. (“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

For the 118th Congress, the Equality Caucus has identified the following legislative priorities:

- H.R. 15, the Equality Act
- H.R. 1833, the International Human Rights Defense Act of 2023
- H.R. 3850, the Pride in Mental Health Act
- H.R. 3970, the LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act
- H.R. 4326, the PRIDE (Promoting Respect for Individuals' Dignity and Equality) Act
- H.R. 4422, the Global Respect Act
- H.R. 4432, the LGBTQ+ Panic Defense Prohibition Act of 2023
- H.R. 5685, the Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act of 2023
- H.R. 6301, the Safe Schools Improvement Act
- H.R. 6652, the LGBTQI Business Equal Credit Enforcement and Investment Act

(“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

On June 21, 2023, The Congressional Equality Caucus Chair And Co-Chairs Reintroduced The Equality Act To “Ensure Explicit Nondiscrimination Protections For All LGBTQI+ Americans.” “WASHINGTON, DC—Today, Equality Caucus Co-Chair Mark Takano, Chair Mark Pocan, and Co-Chairs Angie Craig, Sharice Davids, Chris Pappas, Ritchie Torres, Becca Balint, Robert Garcia, and Eric Sorensen reintroduced the Equality Act to ensure explicit nondiscrimination protections for all LGBTQI+ Americans. The bill is cosponsored by every Democratic member of the House of Representatives and passed the House with bipartisan support in 2019 and 2021. Senator Jeff Merkley, Equality Caucus Co-Founder Senator Tammy Baldwin, and Senator Cory Booker reintroduced the Senate companion earlier today.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, “Equality Caucus Celebrates The Reintroduction Of The Equality Act,” [Press Release](#), 6/21/23)

Since 2015, Democrats Have Pushed For The Passage Of The Equality Act During Every Congress And It Was Passed By The House Of Representatives In 2019 And 2021

Since 2015, Democrats Have Pushed For The Passage Of The Equality Act During Every Congress. “House and Senate Democrats have pushed for the passage of the Equality Act during every Congress since 2015. While the bill passed the House in both 2019 and 2021, when the chamber was controlled by Democrats, success is less likely this year with a Republican majority.” (Brooke Migdon, “Democrats Reintroduce Equality Act Amid Pride Month,” [The Hill](#), 6/21/23)

According To The Congressional Equality Caucus, The Equality Act Is Co-Sponsored By Every Democrat In The House And Passed The House With Bipartisan Support In 2019 And 2021. “WASHINGTON, DC—Today, Equality Caucus Co-Chair Mark Takano, Chair Mark Pocan, and Co-Chairs Angie Craig, Sharice Davids, Chris Pappas, Ritchie Torres, Becca Balint, Robert Garcia, and Eric Sorensen reintroduced the Equality Act to ensure explicit nondiscrimination protections for all LGBTQI+ Americans. The bill is cosponsored by every Democratic member of the House of Representatives and passed the House with bipartisan support in 2019 and 2021. Senator Jeff Merkley, Equality Caucus Co-Founder Senator Tammy Baldwin, and Senator Cory Booker reintroduced the Senate companion earlier today.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, “Equality Caucus Celebrates The Reintroduction Of The Equality Act,” [Press Release](#), 6/21/23)

- **On May 17, 2019, The Equality Act Passed The House Of Representatives, With Eight Republicans Voting For The Bill.** (H.R. 5, [Roll Call #217](#), Passed: 236 – 173; D: 228 – 0; R: 8 – 173, 5/17/19)
- **On February 25, 2021, The Equality Act Passed The House Of Representatives On A Partisan Basis.** (H.R. 5, [Roll Call #40](#), Passed: 211 – 195; D: 211 – 0; R: 0 – 195, 2/25/21)

As Of March 2024, H.R. 15, The Equality Act Has 215 Co-Sponsors, All Of Which Are Democrats. ([H.R. 15](#), Introduced: 6/21/23)

Cosponsors: H.R.15 — 118th Congress (2023-2024)	
Sponsor: Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-39] Cosponsor statistics: 215 current - includes 214 original	
Hide Filters ▲ * = Original cosponsor	
Party of Cosponsor	Cosponsor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check all	Rep. Adams, Alma S. [D-NC-12]*
<input type="checkbox"/> Democratic [215]	Rep. Aguilar, Pete [D-CA-23]*

([H.R. 15](#), Introduced: 6/21/23)

The Equality Act Would Amend The Civil Rights Act Of 1964 To Prohibit Discrimination On The Basis Of Gender Identity And Sexual Orientation In Areas Such As Public Facilities, Education, Federal Funding, Employment, Housing, Credit, And The Jury System

The Equality Act Would Amend The Civil Rights Act Of 1964 To Prohibit Discrimination On The Basis Of Gender Identity And Sexual Orientation. “The Equality Act would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which outlaws discrimination based on race, color, religion, economic status, sex and national origin, to further prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender identity and sexual orientation.” (Brooke Migdon, “Democrats Reintroduce Equality Act Amid Pride Month,” [The Hill](#), 6/21/23)

The Equality Act Would Expand Federal Civil Rights Law To Prohibit Discrimination Based On Sexual Orientation And Gender Identity Discrimination In Areas Such As Public Facilities, Education, Federal Funding, Employment, Housing, Credit, And The Jury System. “The bill would expand federal civil rights law to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination in areas such as public facilities, education,

federal funding, employment, housing, credit, and the jury system.” (Kiara Alfonseca, “Equality Act Reintroduced In Congress To Protect LGBTQ+ Community,” [ABC News](#), 6/21/23)

SINGLE-SEX SPACES

The Equality Act Would Allow Biological Males In Women’s Restrooms And Locker Rooms

HEADLINE: “All House Democrats Back Bill To Allow Men Who Identify As Women Into Women’s Locker Rooms” (John McCormack, “All House Democrats Back Bill To Allow Men Who Identify As Women Into Women’s Locker Rooms,” [National Review](#), 6/28/23)



NR PLUS WOKE CULTURE
**All House Democrats Back Bill to Allow
Men Who Identify as Women into
Women’s Locker Rooms**

(John McCormack, “All House Democrats Back Bill To Allow Men Who Identify As Women Into Women’s Locker Rooms,” [National Review](#), 6/28/23)

The Equality Act Is A LGBT-Rights Bill With “Sweeping Implications For Religious Liberty, Women’s Sports, And Women’s-Only Facilities Such As Shelters And Locker Rooms.” “House Democrats celebrated this ‘Pride Month’ by unanimously throwing their support behind the Equality Act, an LGBT-rights bill with sweeping implications for religious liberty, women’s sports, and women’s-only facilities such as shelters and locker rooms.” (John McCormack, “All House Democrats Back Bill To Allow Men Who Identify As Women Into Women’s Locker Rooms,” [National Review](#), 6/28/23)

The Equality Act Allows LGBTQ+ People To Use Whichever Restroom Corresponds To Their Gender Identity. “Under the Equality Act, companies must provide employees access to restrooms and any other workplace facilities consistent with their gender identity.” (The same goes for schools who are covered under the Act)” (“The Equality Act: What Transgender People Need To Know,” [National Center For Transgender Equality](#), 6/9/19)

WOMEN’S SPORTS

The Equality Act Allows Transgender Women (Biological Males Who Identify As Female) To Compete In Women’s Sports

The Equality PAC Called For Passing The Equality Act So Transgender Kids Can Play In Sports. “#Transgender Americans are under attack with states introducing discriminatory bills banning trans kids from playing sports. The #EqualityAct prohibits discrimination against trans students in public education. We must pass the #EqualityAct now!” (Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 2/18/21)



(Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 2/18/21)

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The Equality Act Would Force Schools To Allow Transgender Women (Biological Males Who Identify As Female) To Compete In Women’s Sports. “Sponsored by David Cicilline, D-R.I., along with 233 other House Democrats, the Equality Act seeks to amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include ‘sexual identity and gender identity’ as protected characteristics. If passed, the Equality Act would force public schools to allow transgender individuals who identify as female to compete in sports with biological girls. This is an issue in competitive sports, as on average males tend to be faster, stronger, and more athletic than females.” (Katie Anderson, Op-Ed, “The ‘Equality Act’ Is A Threat To Women’s Sports,” [The Washington Examiner](#), 4/11/19)

The Bill Has Been Critiqued By The Women’s Liberation Front For Violating The Rights Of Women. “Not all who testified in the House subcommittee hearing have completely rejected reality, thankfully. Julia Beck, head of the liberal Women’s Liberation Front, testified against the bill, noting that feeding into transgender individual’s delusions that they are the opposite gender ‘violates the rights of others.’” (Katie Anderson, Op-Ed, “The ‘Equality Act’ Is A Threat To Women’s Sports,” [The Washington Examiner](#), 4/11/19)

- **NOTE:** According to the *Washington Post*, the Women’s Liberation Front is [a "radical feminist" organization](#).

Female Athletes Are Already Losing To Transgender Athletes Due To Physical Differences. “Female athletes nationwide are already losing to males who argue that sex-segregated sports is unfair discrimination. But athletes who identify as the opposite sex aren’t excluded from competing against their physical equals. Instead, they are seeking to compete in categories created to provide an equal playing field for all athletes.” (Emilie Kao, “Congress Is Set To Pass An ‘Equality Act’ That Will Devastate Women’s Sports,” [Heritage Foundation](#), 5/16/20)

Biological Males Are Able To Produce More Testosterone Than Females, Giving Them A Clear Advantage. “The ceiling for women’s testosterone levels (2.4 nanomoles per liter (npl)) does not even reach the floor for men’s testosterone levels (10 npl). Some transgender athletes say female athletes should just try harder, but no amount of trying harder will overcome the huge advantage of testosterone.” (Emilie Kao, “Congress Is Set To Pass An ‘Equality Act’ That Will Devastate Women’s Sports,” [Heritage Foundation](#), 5/16/20)

H.R. 1833: The International Human Rights Defense Act Of 2023

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 1833, The International Human Rights Defense Act, Which Would Build A Framework Into U.S. Diplomacy To Protect LGBTQ+ Rights Worldwide

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 1833, The International Human Rights Defense Act Of 2023. (“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

For the 118th Congress, the Equality Caucus has identified the following legislative priorities:

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- H.R. 1833, the International Human Rights Defense Act of 2023
- H.R. 3850, the Pride in Mental Health Act
- H.R. 3970, the LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act
- H.R. 4326, the PRIDE (Promoting Respect for Individuals' Dignity and Equality) Act
- H.R. 4422, the Global Respect Act
- H.R. 4432, the LGBTQ+ Panic Defense Prohibition Act of 2023
- H.R. 5685, the Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act of 2023
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(“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

The International Human Rights Defense Act Would Build A Framework Into U.S. Diplomacy To Protect LGBTQ+ Rights Worldwide. “The International Human Rights Defense Act would build a framework into U.S. diplomacy to protect LGBTQ+ rights worldwide. The bill would make preventing and responding to discrimination and violence against the LGBTQ+ community a foreign policy priority and permanently create a Special Envoy, who may be appointed with the rank of Ambassador, within the State Department and who would serve as principal advisor to the Secretary of State on LGBTQ+ issues. The Special Envoy would, among other duties, coordinate LGBTQ+ policies for all bureaus and offices of the State Department and in the international programs of other federal agencies; represent the United States in diplomatic matters relevant to the human rights of LGBTQ+ people; and work to ensure that the needs of LGBTQ+ people seeking resettlement and protection are incorporated into federal government policy.” (“International Human Rights Defense Act,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/29/24)

Under The International Human Rights Defense Act, A Special Envoy Would Be Responsible For Developing And Helping Implement A U.S. Global Strategy To Prevent And Respond To Discrimination And Violence Against LGBTQ+ People. “In addition, the Special Envoy would be responsible for developing and helping implement a U.S. global strategy to prevent and respond to discrimination and violence against LGBTQ+ people.” (“International Human Rights Defense Act,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/29/24)

The Bill Would Also Require The State Department To Include LGBTQI+ Human Rights As A Required Section In Its Annual Country Reports On Human Rights Practices. “The bill would also require the State Department to include LGBTQI+ human rights as a required section in its annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices. While that has been State Department practice for a number of years, it is subject to the whims of each administration and is by no means guaranteed.” (“International Human Rights Defense Act,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/29/24)

“Finally, The Legislation Would Authorize Funding At The State Department And USAID For Programs That Would Prevent And Respond To Criminalization, Discrimination, And Violence Against LGBTQ+ People Internationally.” (“International Human Rights Defense Act,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/29/24)

H.R. 3850: The Pride In Mental Health Act

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 3850, The Pride In Mental Health Act, Which Aims To Develop Mental Health Resources, School Bullying Prevention Guidelines And Training For Caregivers That Are Tailored To The Needs Of LGBTQ

Youth And Would Commission A Report On The State Of Mental Health Care And Resources Available To LGBTQ Youth In Foster Care And Other Federal Social Service Programs

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(“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

The Pride In Mental Health Act Aims To Develop Mental Health Resources, School Bullying Prevention Guidelines And Training For Caregivers That Are Tailored To The Needs Of LGBTQ Youth. “The Pride in Mental Health Act, filed Tuesday by Democratic Reps. Eric Sorensen (Ill.), Sharice Davids (Kan.) and Ritchie Torres (N.Y.) — three of 12 openly LGBTQ members of the current Congress — aims to develop mental health resources, school bullying prevention guidelines and training for caregivers that are tailored to the needs of LGBTQ youth, according to a news release issued Thursday.” (Brooke Migdon, “Lawmakers Introduce Bill To Improve Mental Health Resources For LGBTQ Youth,” [The Hill](#), 6/8/23)

The Pride In Mental Health Act Would Commission A Report On The State Of Mental Health Care And Resources Available To LGBTQ Youth In Foster Care And Other Federal Social Service Programs. “The legislation, which has 47 Democratic co-sponsors, would additionally commission a report on the state of mental health care and resources available to LGBTQ youth in foster care and other federal social service programs. Young LGBTQ people in the U.S. are overrepresented in foster care and unstable housing, a 2019 Williams Institute analysis found.” (Brooke Migdon, “Lawmakers Introduce Bill To Improve Mental Health Resources For LGBTQ Youth,” [The Hill](#), 6/8/23)

H.R. 3970: The LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 3970, The LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act, Which Would Standardize Data Collection Of Sexual Orientation And Gender Identity And Require Agencies To Gather Such Data

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 3970, The LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act. (“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

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(“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

The LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act Would Standardize Data Collection Of Sexual Orientation And Gender Identity. “The U.S. House of Representatives Thursday evening passed legislation to standardize data collection of sexual orientation and gender identity, sending the measure to the Senate for consideration.” (Brooke Migdon, “House Passes LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act,” [The Hill](#), 6/24/22)

Under The LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act, More Than 100 Federal Agencies That Collect Demographic Data Would Be Required To “Assess Needed Changes In Survey Methods Related To Asking Questions On Sexual Orientation And Gender Identity.” “Under the LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act, introduced last June by Arizona Democrat Rep. Raúl Grijalva, more than 100 federal agencies that collect demographic data would be required to ‘assess needed changes in survey methods related to asking questions on sexual orientation and gender identity.’” (Brooke Migdon, “House Passes LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act,” [The Hill](#), 6/24/22)

H.R. 4326: The PRIDE Act

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 4326, The PRIDE Act, Which Would Remove Gendered Language From The Tax Code And Give Tax Refunds To Same-Sex Couples Who Married Prior To DOMA Being Struck Down

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 4326, The PRIDE (Promoting Respect For Individuals' Dignity And Equality) Act. (“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

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The PRIDE Act Includes The Text Of The Equal Dignity For Married Taxpayers Act, Which Would Remove Gendered Language Like “Husband” And “Wife” From The Tax Code To Accommodate Same Sex Couples. “WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, on the tenth anniversary of the U.S. v. Windsor decision that struck down the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), Reps. Judy Chu (CA-28) and Becca Balint (VT-AL) announced the introduction of H.R. 4326, the Promoting Respect for Individuals' Dignity and Equality (PRIDE) Act of 2023. The PRIDE Act includes the text of H.R. 4322, the Equal Dignity for Married Taxpayers Act, which would remove gendered language like ‘husband’ and ‘wife’ from the tax code to accommodate same sex couples. Instead, tax filings will use ‘spouses’ and ‘married couple.’” (Congresswoman Judy Chu, “On 10th Anniversary Of Windsor Decision, Reps. Chu And Balint Introduce PRIDE Act Of 2023,” [Press Release](#), 6/26/23)

The PRIDE Act Includes The Refund Equality Act, Which Would Finally Allow Same-Sex Couples Who Married Before The Defense Of Marriage Act (DOMA) Was Struck Down To Claim The Refunds. “The PRIDE Act also includes the Refund Equality Act, which would finally allow same-sex couples who married before the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) was struck down to claim the refunds they to which they are entitled. For years, same-sex couples in states that recognized legal marriage were wrongfully denied federal refunds because DOMA did not allow them to file federal taxes jointly. That law was overturned in 2013 by the Supreme Court's decision in U.S. v. Windsor, but the IRS still lacks the authority to override limitations in the tax code that limits to three years the period within which a married couple may file jointly after having filed separate returns. This bill would correct that to allow the IRS to provide refunds to same-sex couples who

married in states that recognized same-sex marriage before DOMA was overturned.” (Congresswoman Judy Chu, “On 10th Anniversary Of Windsor Decision, Reps. Chu And Balint Introduce PRIDE Act Of 2023,” [Press Release](#), 6/26/23)

H.R. 4422: The Global Respect Act

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 4422, The Global Respect Act, Which Would Provide A Means To Prevent Individuals Who Violate The Human Rights Of LGBTQ+ People From Entry Into The United States

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 4422, The Global Respect Act. (“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

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“The Global Respect Act Would Provide A Means To Prevent Individuals Who Violate The Human Rights Of LGBTQ+ People From Entry Into The United States.” (“Global Respect Act,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/29/24)

The Global Respect Act Would Require The Executive Branch To Biannually Send Congress A List Of Foreign Persons Responsible For, Complicit In, Or Who Have Incited Extrajudicial Killing, Torture, Or Other Gross Violations Of Human Rights Based On Actual Or Perceived Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Or Sex Characteristics. “Require the Executive Branch to biannually send Congress a list of foreign persons responsible for, complicit in, or who have incited extrajudicial killing, torture, or other gross violations of human rights based on actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or sex characteristics;” (“Global Respect Act,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/29/24)

The Global Respect Act Would Deny Or Revoke Visas To Individuals Placed On The List. “Deny or revoke visas to individuals placed on the list, with waivers for national security, national interest, or to allow attendance at the United Nations;” (“Global Respect Act,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/29/24)

The Global Respect Act Would Require The Annual State Department Report On Human Rights To Include A Section On LGBTQI+ International Human Rights. “Require the annual State Department Report on Human Rights to include a section on LGBTQI+ international human rights, as well as an annual report to Congress on the status of the law’s effectiveness; and” (“Global Respect Act,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/29/24)

The Global Respect Act Would Require The Assistant Secretary Of State For Democracy, Human Rights, And Labor To Designate A Staffer Responsible For Tracking Violence, Criminalization, And Restrictions On The Enjoyment Of Fundamental Freedoms In Foreign Countries Based On Actual Or Perceived Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Or Sex Characteristics. “Require the Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor to designate a staffer responsible for tracking violence, criminalization, and restrictions on the enjoyment of fundamental freedoms in foreign countries based on actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or sex characteristics.” (“Global Respect Act,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/29/24)

Critics Of The Legislation Claim It Is Duplicative Regarding Violent Individuals, As That Exists Already In Federal Law, And The Legislation Would Restrict Freedom Of Speech And Religious Liberty

According To An Op-Ed From Todd Huizinga, The Global Respect Act Fails To Respect Morally Orthodox Religious People And Is Duplicative Regarding Blocking Those Who Are Violent As That Is Already In Federal Law. “The Global Respect Act fails to respect morally orthodox religious people while the protections against violence it would provide, that might otherwise have merit, are already in federal law. The bill should be opposed.” (Todd Huizinga, “Does The Global Respect Act Respect Moral Orthodoxy?,” [The Hill](#), Op-Ed, 3/9/22)

According To An Op-Ed From Todd Huizinga, The Global Respect Act Goes Beyond Blocking Those Who Are Violent And Instead Uses “Discrimination,” Which Could Restrict Orthodox Jews, Muslims, And Christians. “Also troubling, the Global Respect Act goes far beyond protections against violence. The section on ‘discrimination related to sexual orientation, gender identity or sex characteristics,’ is a case in point. The word ‘discrimination’ is commonly stretched, expanded, and distorted in today’s public discourse. And because the language in that section of the Act is broad and imprecise, there is reason to suspect that the proscribed ‘discrimination’ could implicate morally orthodox Jews, Christians, Muslims, and others. The House rejected an amendment proposed by Rep. Scott Perry (R-Pa.) that would have precluded using the bill to authorize sanctions ‘against individuals exercising their freedom of speech, religion, and association...[or] against individuals with sincerely held religious or conscience-based beliefs.’” (Todd Huizinga, “Does The Global Respect Act Respect Moral Orthodoxy?,” [The Hill](#), Op-Ed, 3/9/22)

According The Heritage Foundation, The Legislation Advances Gender Ideology At The Cost Of Religious Freedom And Free Speech. “Foreign Policy. Activists have left no stone unturned, both at home and abroad. In January 2022, the House passed the Global Respect Act. This bill would impose sanctions on foreigners, including private citizens, who are deemed to be responsible for human rights violations against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or intersex individuals. Like the reauthorization bills mentioned above, the Global Respect Act includes SOGI language under an anodyne title. Despite its name, the bill’s vague language marks the latest attempt to advance SOGI ideology at the cost of religious freedom and free speech.” (Jared Eckert And Jay W. Richards, “State Of The Union: An Annual Review Of Sexual Orientation And Gender Identity Legislation,” [Heritage Foundation](#), 4/20/22)

According To The Center For Family And Human Rights, The Global Respect Act Is Duplicative And Unnecessary Regarding Violent Individuals But Is Designed To Deter Free Speech And Religious Freedom Globally. “The Global Respect Act, as currently written in H.R.3485, purports to be a bill to protect the human rights of individuals who identify as LGBTQI+. In reality, it is duplicative and unnecessary. The bill seeks to apply the penalties foreseen under the Magnitsky Act for serious human rights abuses to political and religious opponents of the LGBTQI+ agenda. It is designed to deter free speech and religious freedom around the world, and not to protect the human rights of individuals who identify as LGBTQI+, as its proponents claim. Moreover, the bill would permanently create burdensome and costly bureaucratic requirements for the State Department with the apparent purpose of imposing new and internationally contentious human rights categories based on sexual conduct and preferences.” (C-Fam Staff, “The Global Respect Act: At Best, Duplicative; At Worst, Dangerous,” [Center For Family And Human Rights](#), 3/14/22)

H.R. 4432: The LGBTQ+ Panic Defense Prohibition Act Of 2023

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 4432, The LGBTQ+ Panic Defense Prohibition Act, Which Would Prohibit Criminal Defendants From Using A Victims Gender Identity Or Sexual Orientation As An Excuse Or Justification Of Their Crimes

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 4432, The LGBTQ+ Panic Defense Prohibition Act Of 2023. (“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

For the 118th Congress, the Equality Caucus has identified the following legislative priorities:

- H.R. 15, the Equality Act
- H.R. 1833, the International Human Rights Defense Act of 2023
- H.R. 3850, the Pride in Mental Health Act
- H.R. 3970, the LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act
- H.R. 4326, the PRIDE (Promoting Respect for Individuals' Dignity and Equality) Act
- H.R. 4422, the Global Respect Act
- H.R. 4432, the LGBTQ+ Panic Defense Prohibition Act of 2023
- H.R. 5685, the Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act of 2023
- H.R. 6301, the Safe Schools Improvement Act
- H.R. 6652, the LGBTQI Business Equal Credit Enforcement and Investment Act

(“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

The LGBTQ+ Panic Defense Prohibition Act Would Prohibit Criminal Defendants From Using A Victims Gender Identity Or Sexual Orientation As An Excuse Or Justification Of Their Crimes. “Known as the LGBTQ+ Panic Defense Prohibition Act of 2023, the bill would prohibit criminal defendants from using a victim’s sexual orientation or gender identity as an ‘excuse’ or ‘justification’ for their violent behavior. The bill goes on to state findings, including that ‘panic defenses based on sexual orientation and gender identity or expression... are surprisingly long-lived historical artifacts, remnants of a time when wide-spread public antipathy was the norm for LGBTQ individuals.’” (Marissa Zupancic, “US Members Of Congress Introduce Bill To Ban ‘Gay Panic’ Defense,” [Jurist](#), 6/27/23)

The LGBTQ+ Panic Defense Prohibition Act Would Prohibit Would Prohibit Panic Defenses Regarding LGBT Victims Of Crimes, Which Is Used In Court To Justify Violent Crimes. “Today Congressman Chris Pappas (NH-01), Co-Chair of the Equality Caucus, and Senator Edward J. Markey announced the reintroduction of the LGBTQ+ Panic Defense Prohibition Act, legislation that would ban using panic defenses based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression in federal courts. These defenses are used to excuse violent crimes, such as murder and assault, by arguing that the victim’s sexual orientation or gender identity or expression is to blame for the defendant’s actions, placing the blame on the victims for the violence committed against them.” (Congressman Chris Pappas, “Pappas Introduces Legislation To Ban Use Of LGBTQ+ Panic Defense In Federal Courts,” [Press Release](#), 6/26/23)

H.R. 5685: The Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act Of 2023

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 5685, The Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act, Which Would Require Colleges And Universities That Receive Federal Aid To Establish An Anti-Harassment Policy Prohibiting The Harassment Of Enrolled Students Based On Their Actual Or Perceived Race, Color, National Origin, Sex, Disability, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Or Religion

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 5685, The Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act Of 2023. (“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

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- H.R. 4326, the PRIDE (Promoting Respect for Individuals' Dignity and Equality) Act
- H.R. 4422, the Global Respect Act
- H.R. 4432, the LGBTQ+ Panic Defense Prohibition Act of 2023
- H.R. 5685, the Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act of 2023
- H.R. 6301, the Safe Schools Improvement Act
- H.R. 6652, the LGBTQI Business Equal Credit Enforcement and Investment Act

(“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

The Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act Would Require Colleges And Universities That Receive Federal Aid To Establish An Anti-Harassment Policy Prohibiting The Harassment Of Enrolled Students Based On Their Actual Or Perceived

Race, Color, National Origin, Sex, Disability, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Or Religion. “The Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act of 2023 is the Foundation’s key piece of federal legislation in the wake of Tyler’s tragic suicide. The proposed law would require colleges and universities that receive federal aid to establish an anti-harassment policy prohibiting the harassment of enrolled students based on their actual or perceived race, color, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or religion. The act, which recognizes cyberbullying as including harassment through electronic messaging services, commercial mobile services, and other electronic communications, would also establish a competitive grant program to support campus anti-harassment programs including prevention, counseling, and training for students, faculty, and staff.” (“Support Legislation,” [Tyler Clementi Foundation](#), Accessed: 3/29/24)

H.R. 6301: The Safe Schools Improvement Act

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 6301, The Safe Schools Improvement Act, Which Would Amend The Elementary And Secondary Education Act (ESEA) To Require School Districts In States That Receive ESEA Funds To Adopt Codes Of Conduct Specifically Prohibiting Bullying And Harassment, Including On The Basis Of Race, Color, National Origin, Sex, Disability, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, And Religion

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 6301, The Safe Schools Improvement Act. (“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

- For the 118th Congress, the Equality Caucus has identified the following legislative priorities:
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 - H.R. 1833, the International Human Rights Defense Act of 2023
 - H.R. 3850, the Pride in Mental Health Act
 - H.R. 3970, the LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act
 - H.R. 4326, the PRIDE (Promoting Respect for Individuals' Dignity and Equality) Act
 - H.R. 4422, the Global Respect Act
 - H.R. 4432, the LGBTQ+ Panic Defense Prohibition Act of 2023
 - H.R. 5685, the Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act of 2023
 - H.R. 6301, the Safe Schools Improvement Act
 - H.R. 6652, the LGBTQI Business Equal Credit Enforcement and Investment Act

(“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

The Safe Schools Improvement Act Would Amend The Elementary And Secondary Education Act (ESEA) To Require School Districts In States That Receive ESEA Funds To Adopt Codes Of Conduct Specifically Prohibiting Bullying And Harassment, Including On The Basis Of Race, Color, National Origin, Sex, Disability, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, And Religion. “The Safe Schools Improvement Act (SSIA) would amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to require school districts in states that receive ESEA funds to adopt codes of conduct specifically prohibiting bullying and harassment, including on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and religion.” (“Safe Schools Improvement Act,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/29/24)

H.R. 6652: The LGBTQI Business Equal Credit Enforcement And Investment Act

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 6652, The LGBTQI Business Equal Credit Enforcement And Investment Act, Which Would Require Financial Institutions To Report Data Regarding LGBTQ-Owned Businesses To The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau For The Purposes Of Enforcing Fair Lending Laws

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports H.R. 6652, The LGBTQI Business Equal Credit Enforcement And Investment Act. (“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed: 3/28/24)

Gender Affirming Care

The Congressional Equality Caucus And Equality PAC Support “Gender Affirming Care” For Minors, Claiming It Is “Essential” And “Well Researched”

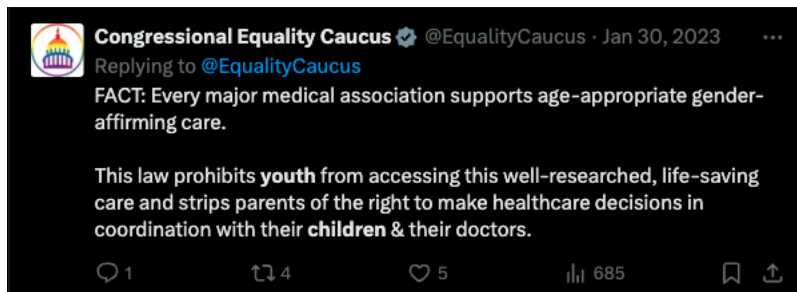
The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports “Gender-Affirming Care” For “Young People.” “House Republicans have focused on restricting access to gender-affirming care this Congress—for both young people and adults. In the first House-passed National Defense Authorization Act, Republicans adopted two amendments to restrict access to gender affirming care for transgender servicemembers and their families. In addition, the majority of Republican appropriations bills included language prohibiting funding from being used to provide gender-affirming care.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, “Obsessed: The House Republicans’ Relentless Attacks Against The LGBTQI+ Community In 2023,” [Report](#), February 24)

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports “Gender-Affirming Care,” Claiming It Is “Lifesaving” And “Essential” Care. “Last week, @HRC released a report detailing the impacts of gender-affirming care bans, including how 1 in 3 LGBTQ+ adults would move or have already moved from a state that bans this care. We must continue to defend this lifesaving & essential care.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 8/23/23)



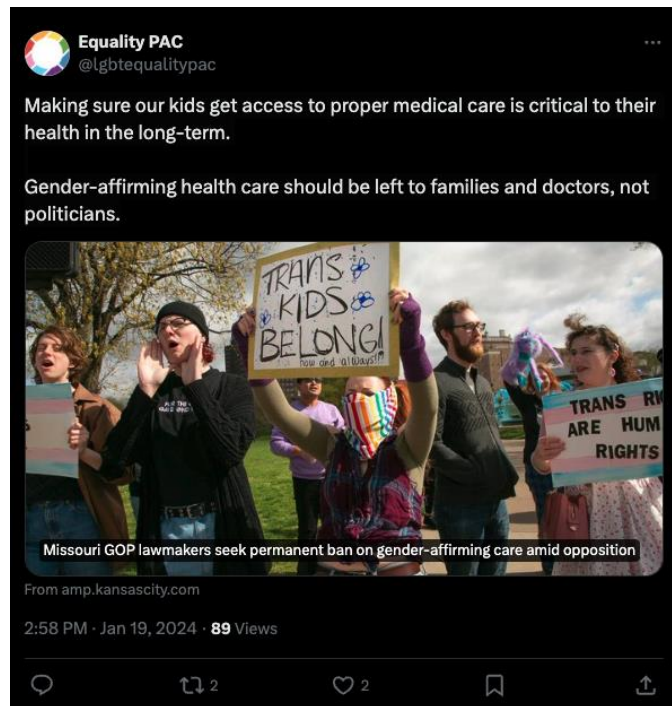
(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 8/23/23)

The Congressional Equality Caucus Claimed That “Gender-Affirming Care” Was “Well-Researched, Life-Saving Care.” “FACT: Every major medical association supports age-appropriate gender-affirming care. This law prohibits youth from accessing this well-researched, life-saving care and strips parents of the right to make healthcare decisions in coordination with their children & their doctors.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 1/30/23)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 1/30/23)

The Equality PAC Supports “Gender-Affirming Health Care” For Kids. “Making sure our kids get access to proper medical care is critical to their health in the long-term. Gender-affirming health care should be left to families and doctors, not politicians.” (Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 1/19/24)



(Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 1/19/24)

The Congressional Equality Caucus And Equality PAC Support Hormone Therapy And Drug Treatments For “Gender Affirming Care” For Trans Youth

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports “Gender-Affirming Care,” Including “Hormone Therapy” For Trans And Non-Binary Youth. “Infuriating. Gender-affirming care, including hormone therapy, is widely-accepted best practice medical care and improves mental health outcomes for trans and non-binary youth. Trans youth are not political pawns - these attacks must stop. 🏳️‍⚧️” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 3/8/22)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 3/8/22)

The Equality PAC Opposed The Missouri Attorney General Calling For The Halting To Drug Care For Trans Youth. “The government has no place in someone's doctor's office, and that applies to health care for trans youth as well. Trans people just want to exist. Let them.” (Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 2/14/23)

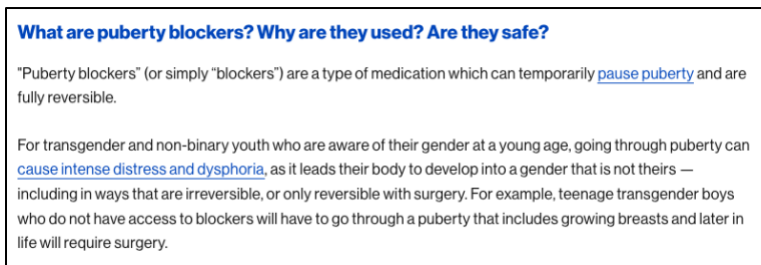


(Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 2/14/23)

“Gender-Affirming Care” Includes Medical Care, Including Puberty Blockers And “Hormone Therapy” And In Rare Instances Can Include “Gender-Affirming Surgeries” For Minors, Including “Top Surgery” To Make Changes To The Chest And “Bottom Surgery” To Make Changes To The Genitals

According To The Human Rights Campaign, “Gender-Affirming Care” Includes Medical Care. “Gender-affirming care, sometimes referred to as transition-related care, is life-saving healthcare for transgender people of all ages. It is not a single category of services but instead is a range of services, including mental health care, medical care, and social services. At all ages, clear, well-established, evidence-based standards of care exist for who can access what form of gender affirming care, and when they are eligible to receive it.” (“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/30/24)

On The Human Rights Campaign’s Resource On “Gender-Affirming Care” They List Puberty Blockers, Which Delay Puberty, As A Form Of Such Care. (“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/30/24)



(“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/30/24)

On The Human Rights Campaign’s Resource On “Gender-Affirming Care” They List Surgeries Including “Top Surgery” To Make Changes To The Chest And “Bottom Surgery” To Make Changes To The Genitals. “There is no single gender-affirming surgery — nor does a person have to have any surgery, or a specific surgery, to be transgender. Gender-affirming surgery includes a wide range of procedures such as plastic surgery to change features in the face to be more typically masculine or feminine, ‘top surgery’ to make changes to the chest or torso or ‘bottom surgery’ to make changes to genitals.” (“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/30/24)

The Human Rights Campaign Notes That Transgender And Non-Binary Individuals Do Not Typically Have “Gender-Affirming Surgery” Before 18, Though There Have Been Exceptions Made For 16 And 17 Year Old’s. “Transgender and non-binary people typically do not have gender-affirming surgeries before the age of 18. In some rare exceptions, 16 or 17 year-olds have received gender-affirming surgeries in order to reduce the impacts of significant gender dysphoria, including anxiety, depression, and suicidality. However, this is limited to those for whom the surgery is deemed clinically necessary after discussions with both their parents and doctors, and who have been consistent and persistent in their gender identity for years, have been taking gender-affirming hormones for some time, who have undergone informed consent discussions and have

approvals from both their parents and doctors, and who otherwise meet standards of care criteria (such as those laid out by WPATH).” (“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 3/30/24)

According To The AAMC, “Gender-Affirming Care” Includes Medical Interventions.

“Gender-affirming care, as defined by the World Health Organization, encompasses a range of social, psychological, behavioral, and medical interventions ‘designed to support and affirm an individual’s gender identity’ when it conflicts with the gender they were assigned at birth. The interventions help transgender people align various aspects of their lives — emotional, interpersonal, and biological — with their gender identity. As noted by the American Psychiatric Association (APA), that identity can run anywhere along a continuum that includes man, woman, a combination of those, neither of those, and fluid.” (Patrick Boyle, “What Is Gender-Affirming Care? Your Questions Answered,” [AAMC](#), 4/12/22)

According To The AAMC, Interventions For Children Include “Hormone Therapy,” Whereas Surgeries Are “Rarely” Provided To People Under 18.

“The interventions fall along a continuum as well, from counseling to changes in social expression to medications (such as hormone therapy). For children in particular, the timing of the interventions is based on several factors, including cognitive and physical development as well as parental consent. Surgery, including to reduce a person’s Adam’s Apple, or to align their chest or genitalia with their gender identity, is rarely provided to people under 18.” (Patrick Boyle, “What Is Gender-Affirming Care? Your Questions Answered,” [AAMC](#), 4/12/22)

A Study From A Pediatric Organization Found That “Puberty Blockers And Cross-Sex Hormones Have No Demonstrable, Long-Term Benefit On The Psychosocial Well-Being Of Adolescents With Gender Dysphoria” And Such Care Was Linked To A Higher Need For Psychiatric Care

According To The American College Of Pediatricians, “Social Transition, Puberty Blockers And Cross-Sex Hormones Have No Demonstrable, Long-Term Benefit On The Psychosocial Well-Being Of Adolescents With Gender Dysphoria.” “The American College of Pediatricians (ACPed), based in Florida, released a position statement on Feb. 7 stating that ‘social transition, puberty blockers and cross-sex hormones have no demonstrable, long-term benefit on the psychosocial well-being of adolescents with gender dysphoria.’” (Melissa Rudy, “‘Gender-Affirming’ Treatments Don’t Benefit Youth, Says Pediatricians Group: ‘Irreversible Consequences,’” [Fox News](#), 2/8/24)

According To The Vice President Of The American College Of Pediatricians, A Review Of 60 Research Papers Demonstrated No Benefit To Social Affirmation, Puberty Blockers, Cross-Sex Hormones, Or Surgical Interventions For Youth. “A review of at least 60 research papers demonstrates no benefit to social affirmation, puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones or surgical interventions for these youth,’ lead author and vice president of ACPeds, Dr. Jane Anderson, wrote in an email to Fox News Digital.” (Melissa Rudy, “‘Gender-Affirming’ Treatments Don’t Benefit Youth, Says Pediatricians Group: ‘Irreversible Consequences,’” [Fox News](#), 2/8/24)

The American College Of Pediatricians Found That The Use Of Puberty-Blocking Drugs Did Not Have Significant Benefits For Youths Experiencing Gender Dysphoria. “In terms of specific therapies, the researchers found that the use of puberty-blocking drugs — medications that delay puberty in children — did not have significant benefits for youths experiencing gender dysphoria.” (Melissa Rudy, “‘Gender-Affirming’ Treatments Don’t Benefit Youth, Says Pediatricians Group: ‘Irreversible Consequences,’” [Fox News](#), 2/8/24)

The American College Of Pediatricians Found That The Use Of Cross-sex hormonal interventions Had Little Mental Health Benefit And Were Linked To A Higher Need For Psychiatric Care. “Cross-sex hormonal interventions — treatments that trigger a transition to a desired gender — were also shown to have ‘little mental health benefit’ and were even linked to a higher need for psychiatric care, ACPeds stated.” (Melissa Rudy, “‘Gender-Affirming’ Treatments Don’t Benefit Youth, Says Pediatricians Group: ‘Irreversible Consequences,’” [Fox News](#), 2/8/24)

Puberty Blockers Have Been Warned Against In The US And Has Not Been Approved By The FDA

The FDA Hasn't Approved Puberty Blockers For Gender-Affirming Care. “Rafferty said it’s a quickly evolving field, but said that doctors have more than a decade of peer-reviewed research to guide their patient treatment. Puberty blockers, for example, have been used for decades to pause the process in very young kids. The FDA hasn’t approved puberty blockers for gender-affirming care, but such off-label use is not unusual or illegal.” (Renuka Rayasam, “The Transgender Care That States Are Banning, Explained,” [Politico](#), 3/25/22)

Doctors In The US Have Warned Against The Usage Of Puberty Blockers. “In the US, doctors have also been warning against the use of puberty blockers for the past few years. Last year, two of the world's top medics for gender reassignment procedures - both of whom are transgender women - publicly expressed their concern about the growing number of children being given the medication.” (Melissa Koenig, “Transgender Assistant Secretary Of Health Rachel Levine Sparks Fury By Claiming ALL Pediatricians Agree On 'Gender-Affirming Care' - Despite Doctors Warning Against 'Chemical Castration' Puberty Blockers That Have Been Linked To Infertility,” [Daily Mail](#), 5/1/22)

- **In 2021, Two Of The World's Top Medics For Gender Reassignment Procedures Expressed Concern Regarding The Growing Number Of Children Being Prescribed Puberty Blockers.** “Last year, two of the world's top medics for gender reassignment procedures - both of whom are transgender women - publicly expressed their concern about the growing number of children being given the medication.” (Melissa Koenig, “Transgender Assistant Secretary Of Health Rachel Levine Sparks Fury By Claiming ALL Pediatricians Agree On 'Gender-Affirming Care' - Despite Doctors Warning Against 'Chemical Castration' Puberty Blockers That Have Been Linked To Infertility,” [Daily Mail](#), 5/1/22)

Puberty Blockers Could Cause Side Effects With The Patient’s Fertility/Sterility

“Puberty Blockers Come With Side Effects — Potentially An Impact On Future Fertility And A Loss Of Bone Density, But Recent Studies Have Shown Those Effects Can Be Reversed ...” “Is gender-affirming care reversible? It depends. Puberty-blocking medications are used temporarily, and they help young people and their families figure out next steps, these doctors said. They prevent adolescents from developing gender characteristics that might be hard to later reverse, like full breast development. But they also give people time to decide whether to pursue interventions like hormone therapy. Puberty blockers come with side effects — potentially an impact on future fertility and a loss of bone density, but recent studies have shown those effects can be reversed, Rosenthal said.” (Renuka Rayasam, “The Transgender Care That States Are Banning, Explained,” [Politico](#), 3/25/22)

Most Children Prescribed Puberty Blockers Go On To Cross-Sex Hormones As Well, A Combination That Can Have Irreversible Consequences, Including Sterility And The Inability To Orgasm. “Worries about the use of puberty blockers, which are prescribed to some children to prevent the development of secondary sex characteristics (like breasts and facial hair) have been mounting in much of the rich world. Some countries have scaled back their use. Not America. Doctors who work in transgender clinics routinely claim that prescribing such drugs is conservative, because their effects are largely reversible, and compassionate, because they save children with gender dysphoria (the feeling of being in the wrong body) from enormous distress. That may be beginning to change. Last week Abigail Shrier, a writer, published interviews in ‘Common Sense With Bari Weiss’, a newsletter, with two transgender health-care professionals who suggested that some doctors were irresponsible in the way they treated children. The women, both trans, are on the board of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (wpath), which endorses the use of blockers early in puberty in some cases. Though blockers are often described as operating like a pause button, most children prescribed them go on to cross-sex hormones. This combination can have irreversible consequences, including sterility and the inability to orgasm.” (“Opinion On The Use Of Puberty Blockers In America Is Turning,” [The Economist](#), 10/16/21)

Other Countries Have Banned The Use Of Puberty-Blocking Medication For Children Due To Health Concerns

Several Countries Have Banned The Use Of Puberty-Blocking Medication For Those Under The Age Of 18. “But puberty blockers have been shown to have unintended side-effects as

well - with several countries now banning the use of the medication for those under the age of 18.” (Melissa Koenig, “Transgender Assistant Secretary Of Health Rachel Levine Sparks Fury By Claiming ALL Pediatricians Agree On 'Gender-Affirming Care' - Despite Doctors Warning Against 'Chemical Castration' Puberty Blockers That Have Been Linked To Infertility,” [Daily Mail](#), 5/1/22)

In Sweden, There Were Several Instances Of Transgender Children Who Suffered Catastrophic Injuries Due To Puberty Blockers, Including Liver Damage, Unexplained Weight Gains, And Skeletal Damage. “He is one of 13 transgender children of the 440 treated by the country's famous Karolinska University Hospital who were found by a Swedish television crew to have suffered catastrophic injuries as a result of the puberty blockers.” (Melissa Koenig, “Transgender Assistant Secretary Of Health Rachel Levine Sparks Fury By Claiming ALL Pediatricians Agree On 'Gender-Affirming Care' - Despite Doctors Warning Against 'Chemical Castration' Puberty Blockers That Have Been Linked To Infertility,” [Daily Mail](#), 5/1/22)

Drag Shows

The Congressional Equality Caucus Opposes Efforts “Banning” And “Restricting” Drag, Claiming It Is For “Everyone” And The Equality PAC Opposed Efforts To Restrict Drag Shows For Minors

The Congressional Equality Caucus Opposes Efforts “Banning” And “Restricting” Drag, Claiming It Is For “Everyone.” “[5/5] Drag is an art form & a medium of expression for many members of the LGBTQI+ community. Drag is for everyone and is a part of LGBTQI+ history & culture. Bills banning & restricting drag are anti-LGBTQI+ and often are written to target the transgender community too.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 2/27/23)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 2/27/23)

The Congressional Equality Caucus Appears To Support Drag Shows In The Presence Of Children, Claiming Proponents Of Restricting The Have “Falsely Accused Drag Queens Of ‘Grooming Children’ And Have Falsely Labeled All Drag Shows As Sexually Explicit.” “More than 40 anti-drag bills have been introduced across the country this year, and several have been signed into law. These attacks are part of a wave of anti-LGBTQI+ legislation; more than 520 anti-equality bills have been introduced in the states this year and more than 75 have been signed into law. Proponents of drag bans have falsely accused drag queens of ‘grooming children’ and have falsely labeled all drag shows as sexually explicit.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, “Equality Caucus Condemns Anti-Equality Provisions In FY2024 Appropriations Bills,” [Press Release](#), 7/25/23)

The Equality PAC Opposed Legislation In Tennessee Claiming It “Isn't About Protecting Children” But “Making Discrimination Towards LGBTQ People Legal.” “Bills like these violate the first amendment, hurt businesses, and place the lives of #LGBTQ people at risk. This isn't about protecting children. This is about making discrimination towards LGBTQ people legal.” (Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 2/15/23)



(Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 2/15/23)

According To The Article Shared By The Equality PAC, The Legislation Would Ban Drag Shows From Public Spaces And Ban Drag Shows From Places That Include Those Under 18. “MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Thursday morning, the Tennessee Senate passed a bill that would ban drag shows from public spaces. It would also ban drag shows in places that include people under the age of 18. This is one of several bills impacting the LGBTQ+ community making its way through the state’s legislature.” (Brittani Moncrease, “Memphis Drag Queen Sounds Off After Bill Restricting Drag Performances Passes Tennessee Senate,” [ABC 24](#), 2/9/23)

HOSTED A DRAG QUEEN STORY HOUR

In 2023, The Equality PAC Hosted A Drag Queen Story Hour For Children With Nina West And D’Manda Martini. “We want to thank the amazing @NinaWest and @dmandamartini for showing us that reading is FUNDAMENTAL during our Drag Queen Story Hour this past weekend! Now more than ever, it is so important we teach our youngsters about acceptance and being kind to one another.” (Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 5/1/23)



(Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 5/1/23)

Nina West Is A Drag Queen Who Won Miss Congeniality In RuPaul’s Drag Race Season 11. “What’s happening: Drag queen Nina West rose to international fame after winning Miss Congeniality in RuPaul’s Drag Race season 11.” (Alissa Wildman Neese, “Best Day Ever: Nina West,” [Axios Columbus](#), 10/17/22)

D'Manda Martini Is A Drag Queen Who Has Been Performing For About A Decade.

“D'manda Martini has been performing as a drag queen for about a decade. Not until last summer did she feel she needed protection.” (Akira Kyles, “Local drag performers face protest, embrace protection from community members,” [MoCo 360](#), 2/13/23)

Women's Sports

- **NOTE:** For additional examples of the Congressional Equality Caucus and Equality supporting biological males in women's sports, see the [women's sports](#) subsection of the [addendum](#).

The Congressional Equality Caucus And Equality PAC Support Biological Males Competing In Women's Sports

The Congressional Equality Caucus Opposed H.R. 734, Claiming It Would “Deprive Trans & Intersex Kids Of Opportunities To Be Part Of Their School Community, Learn Sportsmanship & Challenge Themselves.” “[1/6] LGBTQI+ kids deserve access to the same opportunities—including participating in school sports—as their peers. H.R. 734 would deprive trans & intersex kids of opportunities to be part of their school community, learn sportsmanship & challenge themselves. #LetKidsPlay” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 4/20/23)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 4/20/23)

On April 20, 2023, The House Passed The Protection Of Women And Girls In Sports Act That Would Ban Transgender Participation On Women Sport Teams That Receive Federal Funds – With Every Democrat Voting No. “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would effectively ban transgender women and girls from competing on women's athletic teams that receive federal funds. It would specifically amend existing prohibitions on sex discrimination in federally funded (Title IX) educational programs to also prohibit such programs from allowing persons ‘whose sex is male’ to participate in athletic programs designed for girls or women. It would specify that, for the purposes of the bill, a sex is “based solely on a person’s reproductive biology and genetics at birth.” The bill would allow Title IX programs to permit males to train or practice with an athletic program designed for girls or women as long as no female is deprived of any benefit of participation, such as a place on a team, scholarship, or the ability to participate in a practice or competition.” (H.R. 734, [Roll Call Vote #192](#), Passed 219-203, R 219-0, D 0-203, 4/20/23; [CQ Summary](#), Accessed: 5/5/23)

- **The Protection Of Women And Girls In Sports Act “Makes It A Violation Of Title IX For Federally Funded Education Programs To Allow People Assigned Male At Birth To Participate In Athletic Programs Designed For Women.”** “House Republicans passed a GOP-backed bill blocking transgender girls and women from participating in school athletic programs for females. The legislation, called the Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act, makes it a violation of Title IX for federally funded education programs to allow people assigned male at birth to participate in athletic programs designated for women. It prohibits federal funding to institutions that allow people assigned male at birth to participate on women's sports teams or in events. It passed in the House 219-203 along party-line votes.” (Rachel Looker, “House Passes GOP Bill Blocking Transgender Girls And Women From Participating In School Sports,” [USA Today](#), 4/20/23)

- **The Enactment Of Title IX “Opened Doors And Removed Barriers” For Women Leading To A 1,057 Percent Increase In High School And 614 Percent In Collegian Sports Participation.** “The impact of Title IX on women’s sports is significant. The law opened doors and removed barriers for girls and women, and while female athletes and their sports programs still have fewer teams, fewer scholarships, and lower budgets than their male counterparts, since Title IX’s passage, female participation at the high school level has grown by 1057 percent and by 614 percent at the college level. The impact of Title IX stretches into professional sports as well. More opportunities have emerged for young women to turn their sport into their career, particularly in the WNBA. Collegiate and professional coaching opportunities have increased as well.” (“Title IX’s Impact,” [Billie Jean King](#), Accessed: 5/5/23)
- **Former High Level Female Athletes Have Argued The Bill Would Protect Women Sports By Blocking Biological Males From Taking “Awards, Roster Spots, Scholarships, Or Spots At A School From Female Athletes.”** “We, the undersigned representing elite female athletes across the United States, applaud the U.S. House passage of the Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act, under the leadership of Speaker Kevin McCarthy. We look forward to Senator Tommy Tuberville leading this effort in the United States Senate this week. More than 50 years ago, Congress enacted Title IX to ensure equal opportunity in all aspects of education, including athletics. Since then, women’s sports have made tremendous progress. But without single-sex teams and single-sex competition, men will dominate women in competitive sports where strength, size, or speed are relevant factors. That is because, physiologically, the average male is stronger, bigger, and faster than the average female. Forcing female athletes, like ourselves, to compete against biological males is not only unfair, it is discriminatory and illegal. Allowing biological males to take awards, roster spots, scholarships, or spots at a school from female athletes violates Title IX’s prohibition of discrimination ‘on the basis of sex.’ The Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act amends Title IX to make that explicitly clear and puts athletic organizations, athletic directors, and bureaucrats at the Department of Education on notice that they may not adopt policies that promote ‘inclusion’ on the backs of women. We are thankful to Representative Greg Steube and Senator Tuberville for their leadership on this critical issue and commitment to fight for fairness, privacy, and safety for girls and women in sports, and applaud all 219 members of the U.S. House who voted to stand for women. We strongly urge the U.S. Senate to take up this bill with the urgency it deserves.” (Riley Gaines Barker, [Letter To Congress](#), “Elite Female Athletes Sign Open Letter To Applaud The U.S. House Passage Of The Protection Of Women And Girls In Sports Act,” 4/26/23)

The Congressional Equality Caucus Claimed That “Trans Sports Bans” Target Trans Kids And Don’t Address Issues Facing Girls’ Sports. “[3/5] All trans kids should be able to participate in sports & learn teamwork with their classmates. Trans sports bans target these kids & don’t address the actual issues facing girls’ sports, like unequal resources & sexual harassment. FACT: These sports bans are anti-trans.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 2/27/23)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 2/27/23)

The Equality PAC Supports Biological Males In Women’s Sports. “The trans community across the United States deserves dignity and respect. This discriminatory law does the opposite. It tells trans youth, who already struggle with significant mental health challenges, that they don’t belong.” (Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 4/21/23)



(Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 4/21/23)

Book Bans

The Congressional Equality Caucus Opposes LGBTQI+ Books Being Banned. “Today, the @EqualityCaucus is elevating the importance of LGBTQI+ books during Banned Books Week 🏳️‍🌈📖 We deserve to have our stories told. ‘Don’t Say LGBTQI+’ laws censor LGBTQI+ stories & history and contribute to a hostile education environment for queer youth & teachers.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 10/2/23)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 10/2/23)

The Congressional Equality Caucus Opposes Efforts To Ban “Transgender-Inclusive Books And Study Guides.” “House Republicans have also used the amendment process to further target trans youth, including by adopting both an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act and an amendment to the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2024 to limit access to medically necessary care for transgender youth. Republicans also adopted multiple amendments to ban transgender-inclusive books—one to ban transgender-inclusive books in Department of Defense Education Activity schools and the other to prevent USDA from using funds to purchase certain transgender-inclusive books and study guides.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, “Obsessed: The House Republicans’ Relentless Attacks Against The LGBTQI+ Community In 2023,” [Report](#), February 24)

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supported “Integrating Inclusive Books & Curriculums Into Our Classrooms” And Shared A List Of LGBTQ Kids Books

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supported “Integrating Inclusive Books & Curriculums Into Our Classrooms.” “Experts agree: all families should be reflected in our schools 🏳️‍🌈 Showcasing diversity by integrating inclusive books & curriculums into our classrooms helps kids develop empathy & understanding—both of themselves & of families who don't look like theirs.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 8/31/23)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 8/31/23)

In June 2018, The Congressional Equality Caucus Shared A List Of LGBTQ Kids Books. “Involve your kids in learning about #LGBTQ people and families during #PrideMonth with these LGBTQ friendly books” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 6/14/18)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 6/14/18)

GENDER QUEER

- **NOTE:** *Congressional Equality Caucus Co-Chair Eric Sorensen [was on the](#) board of an organization that pushed this same book for children.*

The Equality PAC Appeared To Support “Exposing” Children To Books Like The Graphic Novel Gender Queer

Equality PAC Claimed That Exposing Children To LGBTQ Individuals Through Stories Would Create A More Accepting World And Opposed Greg Abbot Labeling LGBTQ Books As Pornography, Claiming It Was “Bigoted, Disgusting, And Dead Wrong.” “LGBTQ history and exposing our nation's school children to #LGBTQ individuals through stories or other means creates a more accepting world. @GregAbbott_TX's attack, labeling LGBTQ books as ‘pornography,’ is bigoted, disgusting, and dead wrong.” (Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 11/4/21)



(Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 11/4/21)

Per The Article Shared By The Equality PAC, Greg Abbot Called On The State’s School Boards To Remove Books He Described As “Pornography.” “Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, a Republican, called on the state’s school boards to remove books he described as ‘pornography,’ a move that comes after at least two state lawmakers have asked officials to investigate books in schools.” (Sharif Paget And Nicole Chavez, “Texas Governor Calls Books ‘Pornography’ In Latest Effort To Remove LGBTQ Titles From School Libraries,” [CNN](#), 11/4/21)

While Abbot’s Letter Did Not Cite A Specific Book, The Article Shared By Equality PAC Highlighted That Texas Lawmaker Jeff Carson Released A Statement Calling On The State’s Attorney General To Investigate The Graphic Novel Gender Queer. “Abbot’s letter, sent to the Texas Association of School Boards on Monday, did not cite a specific book that contains what he described as ‘pornography.’ Last week, Texas Republican lawmaker, Jeff Cason, released a statement calling on the state’s Attorney General to investigate books he also described as ‘pornography.’ In his statement, he singled out the graphic novel ‘Gender Queer’ by Maia Kobabe.” (Sharif Paget And Nicole Chavez, “Texas Governor Calls Books ‘Pornography’ In Latest Effort To Remove LGBTQ Titles From School Libraries,” [CNN](#), 11/4/21)

“Gender Queer: A Memoir” Is A Graphic Novel That Contains Illustrations Of Sexual Contact, Masturbation, A Sex Toy, An Erotic Scene Of A Man And A Boy, And Depictions Of Menstrual Blood

- **NOTE:** A twitter thread with censored images from the novel can be [found here](#). Some uncensored photos from the graphic memoir can be [found here](#).

The Graphic Novel Is About A Young Person’s Struggle With Gender Identity. “The graphic novel, written by Maia Kobabe and published in 2019, is about a young person’s struggle with gender identity and chronicles, in comic book-style drawings, the twists and turns of the author’s journey to adulthood.” (Michael Ruane And Hannah Natanson, “Loudoun County Schools Pull Controversial Gender Book From Library Shelves,” [The Washington Post](#), 1/15/22)

The Graphic Memoir Deals With Puberty And Sexual Identity And Features Depictions Of Masturbation, Period Blood And “Confusing Sexual Experiences.” “It’s a graphic memoir that deals with puberty and sexual identity, and includes a few drawings of nude characters and sexual scenarios — images that critics of the book were able to share on social media to stoke a backlash. The book explores the author’s discomfort with traditional gender roles, and features depictions of masturbation, period blood and confusing sexual experiences.” (Alexander Alter, “How A Debut Graphic Memoir Became The Most Banned Book In The Country,” [New York Times](#), 5/1/22)

The Memoir Features A Drawing Of The Author And A Girlfriend Experimenting With A Strap-On Sex Toy, And Another Of The Author Fantasizing About Two Men Having Sex. “Many of the book’s critics seized on a handful of explicit images that illustrate Kobabe’s evolving understanding of gender and sexuality as a teenager and young adult, including a drawing of Kobabe and a girlfriend experimenting with a strap-on sex toy, and another of Kobabe fantasizing about two men having sex.” (Alexander Alter, “How A Debut Graphic Memoir Became The Most Banned Book In The Country,” [New York Times](#), 5/1/22)

“The Book Contains Illustrations Of Sexual Contact, Masturbation And A Sex Toy; An Erotic Scene Of A Man And A Boy Shown On What Looks Like An Ancient Greek Urn; And Depictions Of Menstrual Blood.” (Michael Ruane And Hannah Natanson, “Loudoun County Schools Pull Controversial Gender Book From Library Shelves,” [The Washington Post](#), 1/15/22)

Genderqueer Includes Imagery Of Pedophilia

“The Book Contains Illustrations Of Sexual Contact, Masturbation And A Sex Toy; An Erotic Scene Of A Man And A Boy Shown On What Looks Like An Ancient Greek Urn; And Depictions Of Menstrual Blood.” (Michael Ruane And Hannah Natanson, “Loudoun County Schools Pull Controversial Gender Book From Library Shelves,” [The Washington Post](#), 1/15/22)

A Drawing In “Gender Queer” Shows An Adult Male And Adolescent Or Younger Male In A Sexual Situation. “Another drawing Adams pointed out — Kobabe called it a fantasy based on Plato’s ‘Symposium’ from the 3rd century BC — shows an adult male and adolescent or younger male in a sexual situation.” (Andrew Binion, “Graphic Novel Pulled From Olympic High Shelves, But Parent Wants School Prosecuted Over Book,” [Kitsap Sun](#), 11/1/21)

The Book Features “An Elaborate Fantasy Based On Plato’s Symposium.” (Rod Dreher, [Twitter](#), 10/29/21)



(Rod Dreher, [Twitter](#), 10/29/21)

The Image Appears To Be Based On An Athenian Red-Figure Pottery Cup From 500-401BC. (“Athenian red-figure pottery cup,” [University of Oxford](#), 8/9/22)



(“Athenian red-figure pottery cup,” [University of Oxford](#), 8/9/22)

The Cup Shows A “Homoerotic Scene Between Two Males Of Different Ages.” “This style of ceramic wine cup is known as a kylix. This example shows a homoerotic scene between two males of different ages. These relationships were characteristic of the Archaic and Classical periods of ancient Greek history and were considered to be ‘the principal cultural model for free relationships between citizens’ [1]. These relationships may have originated in an initiation ritual associated with the younger partner’s entrance into military life or the religion of Zeus and developed in the late 7th century BC as an aspect of Greek homosocial culture. They may also have been encouraged by ancient Greek interest in athletic and artistic nudity, the practice of delayed marriage between aristocrats, the social seclusion of women and even as a way of population control. It was both idealised and criticised practice, and varied according to local custom. It had its own complex social-sexual etiquette and was an important social institution among the upper classes.” (“Athenian red-figure pottery cup,” [University of Oxford](#), 8/9/22)

The Cup Depicts Pederastia, The Origin Of The Word Pederasty, A Practice In Which Boys As Young As 15 Would Enter Relationships With Older Men. “This system, called pederastia, is the origin of the modern word ‘pederasty’, which implies the abuse of minors by an older person. However, ancient Athenian law recognised the importance of consent and age was not a factor in regulating sexual behaviour. The age range when boys entered into such relationships (15-18 years old) was comparable with that of Greek girls given in marriage, often to adult husbands many years their senior. Boys usually had to be courted and were free to choose their partner, while marriages for girls were arranged for economic and political advantage at the discretion of the father and suitor. The relationship with an influential older man resulted in an expanded social network seen as beneficial for the boy and his family before the boy was married himself. On the other hand, if a male citizen of free status prostituted himself to an older lover, the law in Athens prohibited him from performing some public functions because it was feared that, since he had sold his own body for the pleasure of others, he might not hesitate to sell the interests of the community as a whole.” (“Athenian red-figure pottery cup,” [University of Oxford](#), 8/9/22)

Pederasty Is Sexual Activity Involving A Man And A Male Youth. “Indeed, Hubbard’s lawsuits are very much about language. Among other topics, Hubbard studies pederasty, or sexual activity involving a man and a male youth. The practice occurred with some regularity in ancient Greece, and Hubbard has argued that U.S. age of consent laws should be re-examined with that tradition in mind. He points to contemporary statutory rape laws in parts of Europe where the age of consent is as young as 14, and argues that these thresholds may be different for young men and women. Age of consent laws are gender neutral in the U.S., but Hubbard has argued that young men may require less legal protection, or merit a lower age of consent, than young women.” (Colleen Flaherty, “Power Differentials,” [Inside Higher Ed](#), 12/11/20)

Pederasty Was Socially Acknowledged Romantic Relationships Between Adult Men And Teen Boys In Ancient Greece. “A group of students at the University of Texas are calling for the firing of a classics professor who has written extensively on ‘pederasty’—socially acknowledged romantic relationships between adult men and teen boys—in ancient Greece.” (Olivia Messer And Pilar Melendez, “Students Want Professor Fired For Writing About ‘Pederasty’ But University Of Texas Says It’s Protected Speech,” [The Daily Beast](#), 12/5/19)

In 2021, “Gender Queer” Became The Most Challenged Book In America And Dozens Of Schools Pulled It Off The Shelves, Some Labeling The Book As “Pornographic”

In 2021, “Gender Queer” Became The Most Challenged Book In America. “Suddenly, Kobabe was at the center of a nationwide battle over which books belong in schools — and who gets to make that decision. The debate, raging in school board meetings and town halls, is dividing communities around the country and pushing libraries to the front lines of a simmering culture war. And in 2021, when book banning efforts soared, ‘Gender Queer’ became the most challenged book in the United States, according to the American Library Association and the free speech organization PEN.” (Alexander Alter, “How A Debut Graphic Memoir Became The Most Banned Book In The Country,” [New York Times](#), 5/1/22)

In 2021, Dozens Of Schools Pulled “Gender Queer: A Memoir” Of Their Shelves And Some Labeled The Book As “Pornographic.” “Kobabe expanded the material into a graphic memoir, ‘Gender Queer,’ which was released in 2019 by a comic book and graphic novel publisher. The print run was small — 5,000 copies — and Kobabe worried that the book wouldn’t find much readership. Then, last year, the book’s frank grappling with gender identity and sexuality began generating headlines around the country. Dozens of schools pulled it from library shelves. Republican officials in North and South Carolina, Texas and Virginia called for the book’s removal, sometimes labeling it ‘pornographic.’” (Alexander Alter, “How A Debut Graphic Memoir Became The Most Banned Book In The Country,” [New York Times](#), 5/1/22)

“Gender Queer: A Memoir” Was Banned In Dozens Of School Districts And Removed From Libraries Across The Country. “The book was banned in dozens of school districts and removed from libraries across the country, including Alaska, Iowa, Texas and Pennsylvania. In some

schools, it was pulled preemptively, without a formal complaint.” (Alexander Alter, “How A Debut Graphic Memoir Became The Most Banned Book In The Country,” [New York Times](#), 5/1/22)

South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster Called “Obscene And Pornographic” And “Likely Illegal.” “Gender Queer: A Memoir” “It became a talking point for prominent Republican officials, among them Glenn Youngkin, now governor of Virginia, Gov. Ron DeSantis of Florida and Gov. Henry McMaster of South Carolina, who called it ‘obscene and pornographic’ and ‘likely illegal.’” (Alexander Alter, “How A Debut Graphic Memoir Became The Most Banned Book In The Country,” [New York Times](#), 5/1/22)

In The Fall Of 2021, Maia Kobabe’s Graphic Novel “Gender Queer: A Memoir” Was Removed From High Schools In Orange County, Florida. “Then came her local school board meeting in Orange County, Florida and an objection raised to Maia Kobabe’s graphic novel ‘Gender Queer: A Memoir.’ And the county’s decision last fall to remove it from high school shelves.” (Heather Hollingsworth And Hillel Italie, “Activism Grows Nationwide In Response To School Book Bans,” [Associated Press](#), 3/1/22)

A Speaker At An Orange County School Board Meeting In Florida Was Removed By Security For Reading A Vulgar Passage Of “Gender Queer: A Memoir,” Which Was Available In The School District. “A speaker at a school board meeting in Florida was removed by security for reading a vulgar passage of a highly sexualized book available in the district’s high school libraries.” (Andrea Blanco, “Remove Him!’: Florida School Board Sets Cops On Man Who Read Vulgar Passage From ‘Gender Queer’ Book That’s Available In High School Libraries,” [Daily Mail](#), 10/29/21)

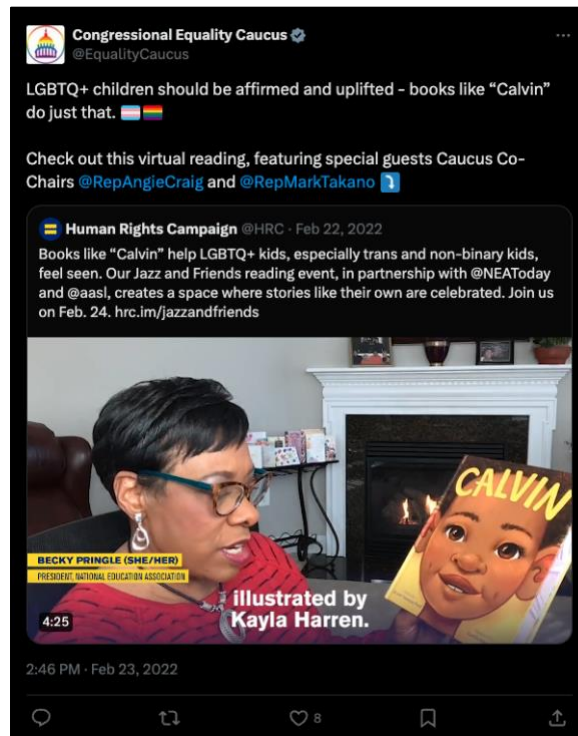
- “In a video shared by an attendee of the meeting, Chair of Orange County School Board Teresa Jacobs is heard instructing police officers to remove Jacob Engel, 27 after he read an excerpt from ‘Gender Queer: A memoir.’” (Andrea Blanco, “Remove Him!’: Florida School Board Sets Cops On Man Who Read Vulgar Passage From ‘Gender Queer’ Book That’s Available In High School Libraries,” [Daily Mail](#), 10/29/21)

In January 2022, Loudon County Schools Removed Copies Of “Gender Queer: A Memoir” From Its Library Shelves, Citing Color Illustrations That Were Deemed Inappropriate. “Loudoun County schools have decided to pull copies of the controversial book ‘Gender Queer: A Memoir’ from its library shelves, citing color illustrations that were deemed inappropriate.” (Michael Ruane And Hannah Natanson, “Loudoun County Schools Pull Controversial Gender Book From Library Shelves,” [The Washington Post](#), 1/15/22)

READING TRANS CHILDREN’S BOOKS

The Congressional Equality Caucus Has Repeatedly Shared Videos Of Its Members Reading Children’s Books About Children Transition, Including A Book Illustrating The Transition Of A Two-Year-Old Biological Boy Into A Girl

In February 2022, Congressional Equality Caucus Shared A Video Of Angie Craig And Mark Takano Reading The Children’s Book “Calvin.” “LGBTQ+ children should be affirmed and uplifted - books like ‘Calvin’ do just that. 🏳️‍🌈 Check out this virtual reading, featuring special guests Caucus Co-Chairs @RepAngieCraig and @RepMarkTakano 📺” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 2/23/22)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 2/23/22)

The Book “Calvin” Is About A Young Transgender Individual Named Calvin. “The description for the book ‘Calvin’ says that ‘Calvin has always been a boy, even if the world sees him as a girl.’” (Kelsey Koberg, “California Department Of Education Advocates Books Promoting Gender Transitions To Kindergartners,” [Fox News](#), 8/12/22)

In March 2019, Congressional Equality Caucus Shared A Video Of Angie Craig, Mark Takano, Sharice Davids, Chris Pappas, And Jackie Speier Reading “I Am Jazz.” “Several of our @LGBTEqCaucus members did a special reading of I am Jazz for #JazzandFriends National Day of Reading. We are so proud to stand with and uplift the voices and experiences of trans youth! Thank you @RepAngieCraig @RepMarkTakano @RepDavids @RepChrisPappas @RepSpeier” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 3/1/19)



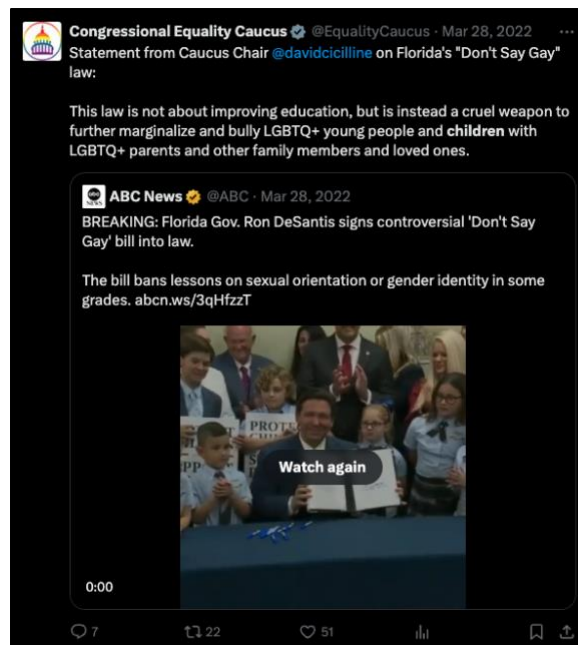
(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 3/1/19)

“I Am Jazz” Is A Children’s Book Illustrating The Transition Of A Two-Year-Old Biological Boy Into A Girl. “I Am Jazz — a children’s book illustrating the transition of a two-year-old biological boy into a girl — was read to the first grade students of the Bellingham School District, sparking concerns from parents.” (Houston Keene, “First Grade Parents Shocked By Transgender Book: Report,” [Fox News](#), 5/6/21)

Florida’s So-Called ‘Don’t Say Gay’ Bill

The Congressional Equality Caucus And Equality PAC Opposed Florida’s So-Called ‘Don’t Say Gay’ Legislation, Which Bans Public School Teachers From Holding Classroom Instruction About Sexual Orientation Or Gender Identity For Students In Kindergarten Through Grade 3

In March 2022, Then Equality Caucus Chair Cicilline Opposed Florida’s So-Called ‘Don’t Say Gay’ Bill. “Statement from Caucus Chair @davidcicilline on Florida's ‘Don't Say Gay’ law: This law is not about improving education, but is instead a cruel weapon to further marginalize and bully LGBTQ+ young people and children with LGBTQ+ parents and other family members and loved ones.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 3/28/22)



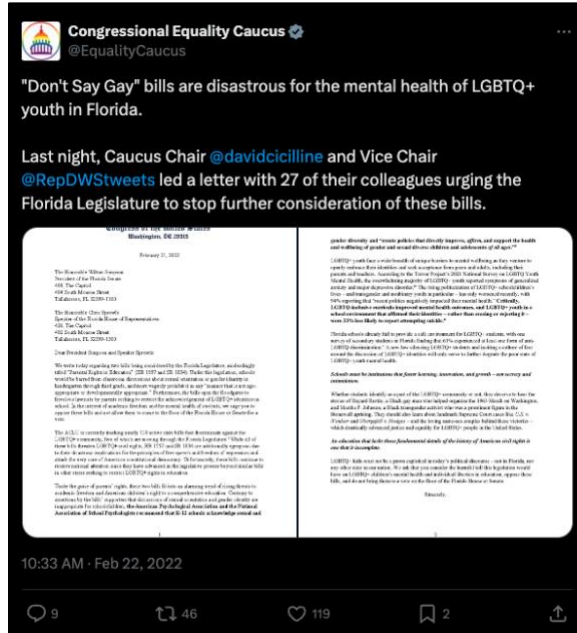
(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 3/28/22)

Equality PAC Opposed Florida’s So-Called ‘Don’t Say Gay’ Bill, Claiming It Was “Cruel” And Put Youth In Harms Way. “Florida Rs have passed their cruel #DontSayGay bill through the FL State Leg. This bill places #LGBTQ youth in harm’s way. We will work with LGBTQ leadership in FL, like our endorsed candidate @micheleforfl, to fight for protections LGBTQ Floridians.” (Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 3/10/22)



(Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 3/10/22)

The Congressional Equality Caucus Claimed Florida’s So-Called ‘Don’t Say Gay’ Bills Would Be “Disastrous” For The Mental Health Of LGBTQ Youth. “Don’t Say Gay’ bills are disastrous for the mental health of LGBTQ+ youth in Florida. Last night, Caucus Chair @davidcicilline and Vice Chair @RepDWStweets led a letter with 27 of their colleagues urging the Florida Legislature to stop further consideration of these bills.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 2/22/22)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 2/22/22)

Equality PAC Opposed Florida’s So-Called ‘Don’t Say Gay’ Bill. “@FloridaGOP are working hard to harm #LGBTQ youth. Their newest idea: forcing teachers to out LGBTQ youth to their parents. This will do nothing but irreparable damage to LGBTQ youth. Florida Republicans know this, they just don’t care.” (Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 2/5/22)



(Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 2/5/22)

The Parental Rights In Education Bill, Which Opponents Refer To As “Don't Say Gay,” Bans Public School Teachers From Holding Classroom Instruction About Sexual

Orientation Or Gender Identity For Students In Kindergarten Through Grade 3. “Public school teachers in Florida are banned from holding classroom instruction about sexual orientation or gender identity after Florida's Gov. Ron DeSantis, a Republican, signed the controversial ‘Parental Rights in Education’ bill.” (Jaclyn Diaz, “Florida's Governor Signs Controversial Law Opponents Dubbed 'Don't Say Gay',” [NPR](#), 3/28/22)

- “The bill, which some opponents have called ‘Don't Say Gay,’ was signed by DeSantis on Monday. It reads, ‘Classroom instruction by school personnel or third parties on sexual orientation or gender identity may not occur in kindergarten through grade 3 or in a manner that is not age-appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students in accordance with state standards.’” (Jaclyn Diaz, “Florida's Governor Signs Controversial Law Opponents Dubbed 'Don't Say Gay',” [NPR](#), 3/28/22)

Sex Workers

The Congressional Equality Caucus Praised Transgender Activist Marsha P. Johnson, Who They Claim Advocated For Sex Workers. “Marsha ‘Pay It No Mind’ Johnson was an outspoken transgender rights activist and was one of the central figures of the historic Stonewall uprising. Johnson helped lead the LGBTQ+ movement in New York City for nearly 25 years - advocating for queer youth and sex workers.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 2/8/22)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 2/8/22)

2020 Riots

On May 29, 2020, The Congressional Equality Caucus Noted That The Riots At Stonewall Inn Started The Movement For Equality And Said They “Stand With The Protestors In Minneapolis As They Demand The Same.” “The riots at Stonewall Inn started a movement for equality. We stand with the protestors in Minneapolis as they demand the same.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 5/29/20)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 5/29/20)

Police Brutality Resolution

The Congressional Equality Caucus Backed A Resolution Condemning Policing In America As Systemically Racist

On June 8, 2020, The Congressional Equality Caucus Came Out In Support Of Karen Bass, Barbara Lee, Ilhan Omar And Ayanna Pressley’s Police Brutality Legislation.

“Washington, D.C. – The Congressional LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus today announced its support for the Police Brutality Resolution led by Representatives Karen Bass, Barbara Lee, Ilhan Omar and Ayanna Pressley. The Caucus sees this resolution as an important step in increasing accountability within the criminal justice system recognizing that people of color, including LGBTQ+ people of color, are particularly vulnerable.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, “Equality Caucus Signs On To Police Brutality Resolution,” [Press Release](#), 6/8/20)

The Equality Caucus Endorsed A Resolution Regarding Police Brutality. “The Equality Caucus endorses this resolution as a first step toward ending policy brutality in our communities.”

(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 6/8/20)

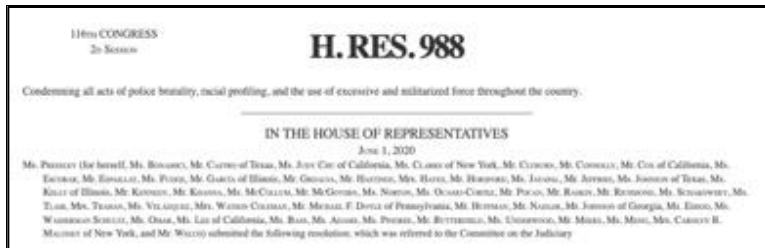


(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 6/8/20)

On May 29, 2020, Karen Bass, Barbara Lee, Ilhan Omar And Ayanna Pressley Introduced A Resolution On Police Brutality. “WASHINGTON – Today, Congresswomen Ayanna Pressley (MA-07) and Ilhan Omar (MN-05), in partnership with Congresswoman Karen Bass (CA-37), Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and Congresswoman Barbara Lee (CA-13), introduced a resolution to condemn police brutality, racial profiling and the excessive use of force. The resolution comes days after the murder of George Floyd by police officers in Minneapolis, as well as the recent murder of Breonna Taylor by police in Louisville, Kentucky, and the hundreds of other lives robbed by police violence.” (Congresswoman Barbara Lee, “Following George Floyd Murder, Reps. Pressley, Omar, Bass, Lee, Introduce House Resolution Condemning Police Brutality,” [Press Release](#), 5/29/20)

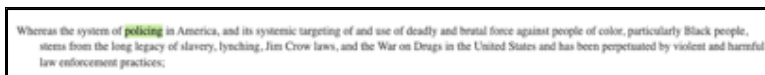
On June 1, 2020, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley Introduced H. Res. 988, “Condemning All Acts Of Police Brutality, Racial Profiling, And The Use Of Excessive And Militarized Force Throughout The Country.” ([H. Res. 988](#), Introduced: 6/1/20)

H. Res. 988 Condemns All Acts Of Police Brutality, Racial Profiling, And The Use Of Excessive And Militarized Force Throughout The Country. “Condemning all acts of police brutality, racial profiling, and the use of excessive and militarized force throughout the country.” ([H. Res. 988](#), Introduced: 6/1/20)



([H. Res. 988](#), Introduced: 6/1/20)

H. Res. 988 Claims That Policing In America Systemically Targets People Of Color, Particularly Black People. “Condemning all acts of police brutality, racial profiling, and the use of excessive and militarized force throughout the country. Whereas police brutality and the use of excessive and militarized force are among the most serious ongoing human rights and civil liberties violations in the United States and have led to community destabilization, a decrease in public safety, and the exacerbation of structural inequities;” ([H. Res. 988](#), Introduced: 6/1/20)



([H. Res. 988](#), Introduced: 6/1/20)

Remain In Mexico

The Congressional Equality Caucus Appeared To Oppose The Remain In Mexico Policy. “Pregnant women, children, and LGBTQ individuals are some of the most vulnerable - and yet they’re being held at the border under #RemainInMexico, where our own government warns tourists from visiting. #DontLookAway” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 1/29/20)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 1/29/20)

The “Remain In Mexico” Policy Required Asylum Seekers To Wait In Mexico For Their Day In U.S. Immigration Court

The Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP) Is Known As The “Remain In Mexico” Policy. “This policy, which was terminated in a memo issued by Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro

Mayorkas, was the center of President Donald Trump's immigration program known as the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP). In the memo, Mayorkas said the MPP 'does not adequately or sustainably enhance border management in such a way as to justify the program's extensive operational burdens and other shortfalls,' and said that the policy known as 'remain in Mexico,' had 'mixed effectiveness.'" (Cammy Pedroja, "Joe Biden Formally Ends Donald Trump's 'Remain In Mexico' Policy: What It Means For Immigration," [Newsweek](#), 6/1/21)

The Migrant Protection Protocols Require Asylum Seekers To Wait In Mexico For Their Day In U.S. Immigration Court. "The policy, officially called the Migrant Protection Protocols, requires asylum seekers to wait in Mexico for their day in U.S. immigration court." (Vanessa Romo, "U.S. Supreme Court Allows 'Remain In Mexico' Program To Continue," [NPR](#), 03/11/20)

In 2020, The Justice Department Argued Against An Injunction On The Policy, Which It Credited With Alleviating A "Mass Migration Crisis," As It Could Create A Rush On The Border Putting American Citizens At Risk

The Justice Department Argued Against An Injunction On The Policy, As It Could Create A Rush On The Border Putting American Citizens At Risk. "In court, the Justice Department argued an injunction on the policy would create chaos along the southern border, prompting a rush by migrants into the country that would put American citizens at risk." (Vanessa Romo, "U.S. Supreme Court Allows 'Remain In Mexico' Program To Continue," [NPR](#), 03/11/20)

The Migrant Protection Protocols Is Credited In Alleviating A "Mass Migration Crisis." "Officials credit MPP as a 'game-changer' in alleviating what they called a "mass migration crisis."" (Vanessa Romo, "U.S. Supreme Court Allows 'Remain In Mexico' Program To Continue," [NPR](#), 03/11/20)