

2023 HIV & LGBTQ+ Legislative Trends



equalityfederation

Equality Federation is an advocacy accelerator rooted in social justice, building power in our network of state-based lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) advocacy organizations.

Activating LGBTQ+ Advocacy to End the Epidemic

Our HIV advocacy partnerships help expand state LGBTQ+ advocacy organizations' ability to improve HIV policy at the state level.

Our work and partnerships developed through this program are rooted in a deep commitment to racial justice and the meaningful involvement of people living with HIV (*MIPA*) principles.



2023 HIV Policy Landscape

PBSO NEWS HOUR

Menu

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Fight over LGBTQ rights th...

HIV/AIDS • HIV (huma...>



PBSO NEWS HOUR

Fight over LGBTQ rights threatens access to HIV care in Tennessee

Health Mar 15, 2023 06:40 PM EDT

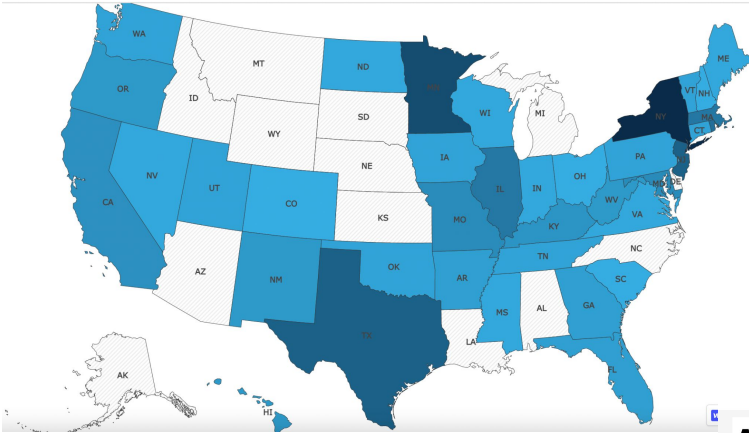
abcNEWS

Proposal to ban abortions at six weeks advances in Florida

A proposal that would ban abortions at six weeks is advancing in Florida, where Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis has indicated support for the restrictions as he prepares a potential presidential run

By BRENDAN FARRINGTON
Associated Press

March 16, 2023, 3:01 PM • 3 min read



CBS NEWS

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POLITICS >

Florida bill targeting "diversity, equity, or inclusion" on college campuses advances to state Senate

BY C MANDLER
MARCH 16, 2023 / 6:48 PM / CBS NEWS

AP NEWS

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March Madness Actor Lance Reddick dies France prot

Kentucky lawmakers pass ban on youth gender-affirming care

By BRUCE SCHREINER March 16, 2023



THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

Menu

Abortion Drug Trial Budget Surplus HISD Takeover

Religious employers need not cover PrEP in their health plans, federal judge rules

U.S. District Judge Reed O'Connor's ruling could threaten access to sexual and reproductive health care for more than 150 million working Americans on employer-sponsored health care plans. The ruling will

2023 HIV Policy Landscape @ the States

107 HIV
Testing or
Treatment
Services

Over
226
bills
related
to HIV

23 HIV
Modernization or
Criminalizing Bills

62 PrEP /
PEP Access
Bills

55 Sex-Ed
Bills

As of 04-14-23



Bill Status of HIV Testing & Treatment

Enacted/Passed

9

Crossed Over

3

Dead/Session Over

4

Still In Play

92

*Roughly only **9.1%** of HIV testing and treatment legislation were passed/signed into law in 2023
as of 04/12/23*



Status of HIV Criminalization Modernization Bills in 2023

Enacted/Passed

0

Crossed Over

1

Dead/Session Over

2

Still In Play

7



Needed Allyship - Intersectional Opportunities at the State Level

375
Anti-Trans
Bills

120 Gender
Affirming
Care Bans

484
Anti-
LGBTQ
Bills

34 Drag Bans

128 Repro
Bills

As of 04-10-23



The Underfunded Work on the Ground

Coalition-Building

- Lobbying/insider
- Organizing capacity
- People with lived experience
- ASOs
- Local to national advocacy partners
- Funders
- General relationship building

Tactics

- Recruiting legislative champion
- Under-the-dome lobbying
- Direct constituent contact
- Coalition outreach
- Storytelling
 - PLWHIV
 - Sexual Assault Survivors
- Communications/public education

Lessons Learned:

- Multi-year strategy is needed
- Strong engagement in both chambers
- Need stronger communications and messaging strategies that are ready-to-use for local advocates
- Pay attention to other laws that can be used to criminalize



Investments in Advocacy Pays Off - MD Spotlight:

HISTORY was made
on **HB 287**—full HIV
crim. repeal:

- Moved for 1st time
- Passed House 97-37
- Governor endorsed
- Came just 2 Senate votes short from passing

\$23,000 in regrants that
directly supports additional
MD staff

\$7,500 in Paid Path-Through Calls/
Constituent Advocacy

\$10,250 in projected
national staffing support
from EqFed & SERO Project

EqFed Investment in 2023: \$40,750



What can you do?

Most Immediate (NOW) Emerging needs support for active HIV coalitions in states that includes Ohio, Texas, Florida, Oklahoma, to name a few...

Within the Next Year Investment in MIPA-minded state-level HIV advocacy coalition development

- Bridging grassroots and insider strategies
- For funders that are able, fund lobbying and organizing

Longer Term Needs Multi-year support and firmer commitment to leadership development of PLHIV support in both advocacy and philanthropy spaces



State-Level HIV Legislative Tracking

<https://www.equalityfederation.org/tracker/hiv>

E-mail for questions or updates:
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