2023 HIV & LGBTQ+ Legislative Trends
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.
Proposal to ban abortions at six weeks advances in Florida

A proposal to 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 ET

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

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 likely be appealed.
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

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Roughly only **9.1%** of HIV testing and treatment legislation were passed/signed into law in 2023 as of **04/12/23**
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Needed Allyship - Intersectional Opportunities at the State Level

- 375 Anti-Trans Bills
- 484 Anti-LGBTQ Bills
- 120 Gender Affirming Care Bans
- 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
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

**EqFed Investment in 2023:** $40,750

**Investments in Advocacy Pays Off - MD Spotlight:**

- $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
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: mike@equalityfederation.org