

EQ

CA



2012 LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

Equality for LGBT Youth and Families Advances in the Golden State

Six Equality California Sponsored Bills Signed Into Law

Each year, Equality California sets out to change the face of our state through legislative advocacy. When we began our work many years ago, protections for LGBT Californians were limited, at best. Since then, Equality California has joined with our allies in Sacramento and with our members to successfully sponsor more pro-equality legislation in California than in all other states combined. Our collective work to pass these 91 bills has transformed California into a state with some of the most advanced civil rights protections for LGBT people in the nation.

All six bills sponsored by EQCA passed the legislature, along with a Joint Legislative Audit Request, and all six were signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown.

This year, we have banned dangerous psychological abuse masquerading as therapy; ensured a safer and more compassionate environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender foster youth; increased access to benefits for gay, lesbian and bisexual California veterans; helped keep LGBT seniors in their homes; given lesbian couples better access to fertility treatments; and reaffirmed the religious freedom of clergy in performing marriages. These laws will make a lasting, positive difference for LGBT youth and families.

We are grateful to Governor Brown for signing these six bills and to the legislators who authored them. With their help, we broke out the brooms and got a clean sweep.



Joint Legislative Audit

Students must not be allowed to suffer simply because administrators lack the will or ability to protect them. We have the laws we need to make a real impact in reducing bullying and discrimination, but we can't let safety be an empty promise we make to students. This audit, sponsored by Equality California and GSA Network and requested by Assemblymembers Ricardo Lara (D-Bell Gardens) and Betsy Butler (D-Los Angeles) will let us know how safe our youth really are.

Equality California (EQCA) is the largest statewide lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender rights advocacy organization in California. Over the past decade, Equality California has strategically moved California from a state with extremely limited legal protections for LGBT individuals to a state with some of the most comprehensive civil rights protections in the nation. Equality California has passed more than 90 pieces of legislation and continues to advance equality through legislative advocacy, electoral work, public education and community empowerment.

Signed Legislation

Protecting LGBT Youth From Psychological Abuse

Bill Number: SB 1172

For decades, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people — particularly youth — have suffered psychological abuse by those who are entrusted to care for their emotional and psychological well-being. This bill will help to put an end to dangerous efforts to change a young person's sexual orientation or gender expression that have no sound scientific basis and that cause lifelong damage.

Author: Senator Ted Lieu (D-Torrance)

Co-Sponsored With: National Center for Lesbian Rights, Gay-lesta, Courage Campaign, Lambda Legal, and Mental Health America of Northern California.

Status: Signed by the governor. To take effect on January 1, 2013.

Providing Safe, Supportive Homes for LGBT Youth

Bill Number: AB 1856

Few things are more devastating to a child than being removed from his or her parents. Yet, for LGBT youth in foster care, this devastation is often compounded by placements in foster homes that are at best ill-equipped to care for LGBT kids or at worst hostile to them. AB 1856 will provide comfort, safety and support to LGBT foster youth by creating cultural competency standards that foster homes housing LGBT youth must meet.

Author: Assemblymember Tom Ammiano (D-San Francisco)

Co-Sponsored With: LA Gay & Lesbian Center

Status: Signed by the governor. To take effect on January 1, 2013.

Supporting LGB Veterans and Military Families

Bill Number: AB 1505

Under Don't Ask, Don't Tell, LGB service members and their families made tremendous sacrifices, but without the support and recognition afforded to the families of other service members. AB 1505 will connect California service members who were discharged from the military for no reason other than their sexual orientation to resources that will assist them in obtaining a discharge upgrade and thereby have access to state veterans benefits such as home loans, college tuition fee waivers, and preference for civil service examinations.

Author: Assemblymember Richard Pan (D-Sacramento)

Co-Sponsored With: Sacramento Valley Veterans

Status: Signed by the governor. To take effect on January 1, 2013.

Keeping LGBT People in Their Homes

Bill Number: AB 1700

The death of a lifelong partner is traumatic. But under current law, that trauma can be worsened by property tax penalties that apply unequally to same-sex partners, especially impacting LGBT seniors. AB 1700 ensures that no LGBT person is put at risk of losing the home that he or she has built over a lifetime with a loved one because of unfair tax rules.

Author: Assemblymember Betsy Butler (D-Los Angeles)

Status: Signed by the governor. To take effect on January 1, 2013.

Removing Barriers to Family-Building

Bill Number: AB 2356

For many loving, committed couples, having a child and building a family is one of the most important and fundamental keys to happiness. Unfortunately, same-sex couples face many barriers in forming families — including unequal access to fertility health care. AB 2356 ensures that women in same-sex relationships can access certain fertility services on the same terms as women in opposite-sex relationships.

Author: Assemblymember Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley)

Co-Sponsored With: National Center for Lesbian Rights

Status: Signed by the governor. To take effect on January 1, 2013.

Protecting Religious Freedom in Marriage

Bill Number: SB 1140

As we continue our efforts to achieve full equality, we must remove every possible barrier to securing the freedom to marry, including the false claim made by anti-equality advocates in California and elsewhere that allowing loving same-sex couples to marry will force clergy or places of worship to compromise their religious beliefs. As we anticipate the restoration of the freedom to marry in our state, SB 1140 reaffirms the principles of the U.S. and California Constitutions with respect to the freedom of clergy to make faith-based decisions regarding which marriages they solemnize.

Author: Senator Mark Leno (D-San Francisco)

Co-Sponsored With: California Council of Churches IMPACT

Status: Signed by the governor. To take effect on January 1, 2013.

Scorecard Methodology & Symbol Key

The analysis of votes is based on the final floor votes cast on the measures. Yes votes are represented by “1” and no votes are represented by “0”. Legislators present but not voting, are denoted by “-”, which is equivalent to a “no” vote. Passage of legislation requires a “yes” vote by majority of all legislators. Therefore, not voting has the same effect as a “no” vote. Legislators who were officially absent for a vote did not have that vote factored into the rating and are denoted on the scorecard with an “A”. Exceptions were made where a vote was missed if the legislator was a co-author, voted to support the bill during a previous floor vote or in committee, or was absent from the floor for official business to support the bill at a previous floor vote or in committee.

Governor Scorecard

The governor was rated on legislation that reached his desk.

Name	Party	SB 1140	SB 1172	AB 1505	AB 1700	AB 1856	AB 2356	TOTAL
Governor Brown	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%

All six EQCA bills passed the legislature, along with a Joint Legislative Audit Request, and all six were signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown.



Senate Scorecard

Support = 1 | Oppose = 0 | Not Voting = - | Absent = A | LGBT = *

Name	District	Party	SB 1140	SB 1172	AB 1505	AB 1700	AB 1856	AB 2356	Audit	SCORE
Alquist, Elaine	13	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Anderson, Joel	36	R	0	0	0	A	0	0	0	0%
Berryhill, Tom	14	R	-	0	1	1	0	0	N/A	33%
Blakeslee, Sam	15	R	1	0	A	1	A	1	N/A	75%
Calderon, Ron	30	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Cannella, Anthony	12	R	0	0	1	1	0	1	N/A	50%
Corbett, Ellen	10	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Correa, Lou	34	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
de León, Kevin	22	D	1	1	A	1	A	1	1	100%
DeSaulnier, Mark	7	D	A	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Dutton, Robert	31	R	0	0	1	1	0	0	-	29%
Emmerson, Bill	37	R	-	-	1	1	-	1	N/A	50%
Evans, Noreen	2	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Fuller, Jean	18	R	0	0	-	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Gaines, Ted	1	R	0	0	1	1	0	0	N/A	33%
Hancock, Loni	9	D	A	1	1	A	1	1	N/A	100%
Harman, Tom	35	R	-	0	1	1	0	0	N/A	33%
Hernandez, Ed O.D.	24	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Huff, Bob	29	R	0	0	-	-	0	0	N/A	0%
Kehoe, Christine*	39	D	A	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
La Malfa, Doug	4	R	0	0	-	1	0	0	0	14%
Leno, Mark*	3	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Lieu, Ted	28	D	A	1	A	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Liu, Carol	21	D	1	1	1	A	1	1	N/A	100%
Lowenthal, Alan	27	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Negrete McLeod, Gloria	32	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Padilla, Alex	20	D	1	1	1	A	1	1	N/A	100%
Pavley, Fran	23	D	A	A	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Price, Curren	26	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Rubio, Michael J.	16	D	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	57%
Runner, George	17	R	A	A	-	1	0	A	N/A	33%
Simitian, Joe	11	D	1	1	1	1	1	-	N/A	83%
Steinberg, Darrell, President Pro Tempore	6	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Strickland, Tony	19	R	0	0	1	1	0	0	N/A	33%
Vargas, Juan	40	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Walters, Mimi	33	R	0	0	1	1	0	0	N/A	33%
Wolk, Lois	5	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Wright, Roderick	25	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Wyland, Mark	38	R	A	0	1	1	0	A	N/A	50%
Yee, Leland	8	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%

Assembly Scorecard

Support = 1 | Oppose = 0 | Not Voting = - | Absent = A | LGBT = *

Name	District	Party	SB 1140	SB 1172	AB 1505	AB 1700	AB 1856	AB 2356	Audit	SCORE
Achadjian, Katcho	33	R	0	0	1	0	0	0	N/A	17%
Alejo, Luis A.	28	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Allen, Michael	7	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Ammiano, Tom*	13	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Atkins, Toni*	76	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Beall, Jim	24	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Berryhill, Bill	26	R	0	0	-	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Block, Marty	78	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Blumenfield, Bob	40	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Bonilla, Susan A.	11	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Bradford, Steven	51	D	A	A	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Brownley, Julia	41	D	1	1	1	A	1	1	N/A	100%
Buchanan, Joan	15	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Butler, Betsy	53	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Calderon, Charles	58	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Campos, Nora	23	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Carter, Wilmer Amina	62	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Cedillo, Gilbert	45	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Chesbro, Wesley	1	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Conway, Connie	34	R	0	0	-	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Cook, Paul	65	R	0	-	-	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Davis, Mike	48	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Dickinson, Roger	9	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Donnelly, Tim	59	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Eng, Mike	49	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Feuer, Mike	42	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Fletcher, Nathan	75	R	1	1	1	A	1	1	N/A	100%
Fong, Paul	22	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Fuentes, Felipe	39	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Furutani, Warren	55	D	1	1	1	A	1	1	N/A	100%
Gaines, Beth	4	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Galgiani, Cathleen*	17	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Garrick, Martin	74	R	0	0	-	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Gatto, Mike	43	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Gordon, Richard S.*	21	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Gorell, Jeff	37	R	-	-	1	-	1	0	N/A	33%
Grove, Shannon L.	32	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Hagman, Curt	60	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Halderman, Linda	29	R	0	0	1	0	0	0	N/A	17%
Hall, Isadore	52	D	1	1	1	A	1	1	N/A	100%

Assembly Scorecard

Support = 1 | Oppose = 0 | Not Voting = - | Absent = A | LGBT = *

Name	District	Party	SB 1140	SB 1172	AB 1505	AB 1700	AB 1856	AB 2356	Audit	SCORE
Harkey, Diane	73	R	0	0	-	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Hayashi, Mary	18	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Hernandez, Roger	57	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Hill, Jerry	19	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Huber, Alyson	10	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Hueso, Ben	79	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Huffman, Jared	6	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Jeffries, Kevin	66	R	0	-	1	0	0	0	N/A	17%
Jones, Brian	77	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Knight, Steve	36	R	0	0	-	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Lara, Ricardo*	50	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Logue, Dan	3	R	0	0	-	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Lowenthal, Bonnie	54	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Ma, Fiona	12	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Mansoor, Allan R.	68	R	0	0	-	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Mendoza, Tony	56	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Miller, Jeff	71	R	0	0	-	-	0	0	N/A	0%
Mitchell, Holly J.	47	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Monning, William	27	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Morrell, Mike	63	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Nestande, Brian	64	R	0	-	1	-	0	0	N/A	17%
Nielsen, Jim	2	R	0	0	-	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Norby, Chris	72	R	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0%
Olsen, Kristin	25	R	0	0	0	-	0	0	N/A	0%
Pan, Richard M.D.	5	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100%
Perea, Henry T.	31	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Pérez, Manuel	80	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Pérez, John A.*	46	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Portantino, Anthony	44	D	1	1	1	A	1	1	N/A	100%
Silva, Jim	67	R	0	0	-	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Skinner, Nancy	14	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Smyth, Cameron	38	R	0	-	1	0	0	0	1	29%
Solorio, Jose	69	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Swanson, Sandré	16	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Torres, Norma	61	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Valadao, David G.	30	R	0	0	-	0	0	0	N/A	0%
Wagner, Donald P.	70	R	0	0	1	0	0	0	N/A	17%
Wieckowski, Bob	20	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Williams, Das	35	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%
Yamada, Mariko	8	D	1	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	100%



About Equality California

Equality California has strategically moved California from a state with extremely limited legal protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) individuals to a state with some of the most comprehensive civil rights protections in the nation.

Improving the Lives of LGBT Californians

Equality California works to achieve equality and secure legal protections for LGBT people. To improve the lives of LGBT Californians, Equality California sponsors legislation and coordinates efforts to ensure its passage, lobbies legislators and other policy makers, builds coalitions, develops community strength and empowers individuals and other organizations to engage in the political process.

Creating a Strong California

Equality California has successfully passed more than 90 pieces of legislation to advance the rights of the LGBT people in California. Working in partnership with California's LGBT Legislative Caucus, Equality California is committed to building a better future for all Californians by protecting youth, strengthening families and empowering communities. Each year at the Capitol, Equality California monitors hundreds of bills and leads efforts to defeat legislation that could have a negative impact on LGBT Californians and their families.

Defending LGBT Rights & Protections

Equality California, represented by our community's legal organizations and pro-bono counsel, has been a party to key lawsuits on behalf of its members including the historic case before the California Supreme Court striking down state law that barred same-sex couples from marriage. Equality California also submitted an amicus brief supporting the federal challenge of Prop 8. In addition, Equality California has participated in cases defending California's domestic partnership laws and safe schools protections for LGBT youth.

BUILDING A STATE OF EQUALITY