

A LOOK AT 20 YEARS OF LGBTQ+ RIGHTS IN THE ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE

(2005) AMENDMENT TO THE ILLINOIS HUMAN RIGHTS ACT - SB 3186 PUBLIC ACT 93-1078

Sponsors: Sen. Ronen & Rep. McKeon | In partnership with Equality Illinois, Howard Brown, Lambda Legal

The Illinois Human Rights Act was amended in 2005, which added sexual orientation to the list of protected classes, making Illinois the fifteenth state to bar discrimination based on sexual orientation. The amendment took effect in 2006 and included "gender-related identity" within the definition of sexual orientation.

(2010) ILLINOIS RELIGIOUS FREEDOM PROTECTION AND CIVIL UNION ACT - SB 1716 PUBLIC ACT 96-1513

Sponsors: Sen. Koehler & Rep. Harris | In coalition with Civil Unions Coalition

SB 1716 made it possible for couples – either of the same or different sex – to enter a legal relationship that provides all the legal protections and benefits that the law of Illinois grants to a married couple. The major benefits include hospital visitation, emergency healthcare decision making, disposition of a deceased loved one's remains and probate rights.

(2013) MEDICALLY ACCURATE, AGE-APPROPRIATE, COMPLETE SEXUAL HEALTH INFORMATION - HB 2675 PUBLIC ACT 98-0441

Sponsors: Rep. Lilly & Sen. Steans | In partnership with Aids Foundation of Chicago, Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health, Planned Parenthood of Illinois

HB 2675 creates a standard for sexual health education courses taught in grades 6-12 which provides medically accurate, age-appropriate, complete information on reducing STDs and STIs, as well as information on abstinence, contraception, and healthy relationships. It allowed local school districts to choose curricula and parental opt out.

(2013) RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND MARRIAGE FAIRNESS ACT - SB 110 PUBLIC ACT 98-0597

Sponsor: Sen. Steans & Rep. Harris | In partnership with Illinois Unites for Marriage Coalition

SB 110 legalizes same-sex marriage in Illinois, ensuring that LGBTQ+ people were able to experience the same marital privileges that different sex couples had been granted. This law made same sex married couples eligible for many federal programs, such as the Family and Medical Leave Act, veteran benefits, Medicaid, and Medicare.

(2013) REPEAL OF PRINCIPAL NOTIFICATION OF HIV LAW - HB 61 PUBLIC ACT 98-0353

Sponsors: Rep. Ford & Sen. Martinez | In partnership with AIDS Foundation of Chicago, Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition, Cook County Department of Public Health, Illinois Public Health Association, Howard Brown

Prior to this law, Illinois was the only state in which health authorities must notify school principals of the names of HIV-positive students. Students whose status is made public face stigma and bullying at school. HB 61 eliminates the deceptive precaution notice to principals, while upholding the right of doctors and parents to inform school staff of a student's HIV status for medical reasons.

(2014) EFFECTIVELY REDUCE INSTANCES OF BULLYING - HB 5707 PUBLIC ACT 98-0669

Sponsors: Rep. Cassidy & Sen. Steans | In Partnership with Safe Schools Alliance

HB 5707 clarifies current bullying prevention policies law by providing schools with the guidance needed to comply with existing law including establishing procedures for reporting, investigating and addressing bullying, allowing for data collection on school climate and provenance of bullying, and giving schools the freedom to tailor their procedures to the unique needs of their school communities.



(2017) VITAL RECORDS MODERNIZATION ACT- HB 1785 PUBLIC ACT 100-0360

Sponsors: Rep. Harris & Sen. Hutchinson | In Partnership with Aids Foundation of Chicago and Equality Illinois

HB 1785 updates the Vital Records Act to fit the standards used by the federal government and a growing number of states by allowing transgender and intersex people to change the gender marker on their birth certificate without proof of surgery.

(2019) PROTECTING LGBTQ YOUTH IN CARE - SR 403 RESOLUTION ADOPTED 039-011-000

Sponsors: Sen. Morrison

SR 403 sought to determine whether the Department of Children and Family Services is following state law and agency rules to fulfill its obligations to protect and provide affirming, non-discriminatory care for LGBTQ+ youth in its custody. The resolution prompted the Illinois Auditor General to conduct a review in 2021 and found substandard practices in DCFS's practice.

(2021) KEEPING YOUTH SAFE AND HEALTHY ACT - SB 818 PUBLIC ACT 102-0522

Sponsors: Sen. Villavalam & Rep. Lilly | In partnership with AIDS Foundation Chicago, Equality Illinois, Planned Parenthood Illinois Action

SB 818 creates personal health and safety standards for grades K-5 and expands comprehensive sexual health education standards to give sixth to twelfth graders the information they need to support responsible and informed decision making about their health. The bill also ensures that personal and sexual health education in Illinois is affirming of identities including those who historically have been stigmatized including LGBTQ+ and pregnant or parenting youth.

(2021) HIV DECRIMINALIZATION - HB 1063 PUBLIC ACT 102-0168

Sponsors: Rep. Ammons & Sen. Peters | As part of the Illinois HIV Action Alliance

With the passage of HB 1063, Illinois became the second state to end criminal penalties for those living with HIV. Previously, people living with HIV faced the threat of arrest, prosecution, and incarceration due to their HIV status, even if they do not transmit HIV to another person. HB 1063 repeals this discriminatory law and modernizes how we approach this public health issue in Illinois.

(2022) REMOVE THE BAR FOR NAME CHANGES - HB 2542 PUBLIC ACT 102-1133

Sponsors: Rep. Cassidy & Sen. Cunningham | In partnership with Chicago House, Transformative Justice Law Project, Chicago Bar Association

Illinois's name change law is one of the most restrictive in the nation. HB 2542 removes the ten-year waiting period for people with felony convictions and the lifetime ban for people with identity theft convictions. It also protects communities who face mistreatment and identity-based discrimination by adding a judicial discretion exception for people seeking a name change due to gender-related identity, marriage, religion and status as a human trafficking survivor.

(2022) PATIENT AND PROVIDER PROTECTION ACT (PAPPA) - HB 4664 PUBLIC ACT 102-1117

Sponsors: Rep. Cassidy & Sen. Villanueva | In Partnership with the House Reproductive Health and Dobbs Decision Working Group

HB 4664 protects patients, providers, and those assisting them from litigation under laws in other states intended to deter people from obtaining gender-affirming care that is lawful in Illinois. It also protects Illinois health care providers' professional licenses from disciplinary action if they provide lawful health care in Illinois, even if that care is not legal in another state. PAPPA clarifies that advanced practice registered nurses and physicians assistants can provide aspiration abortion care and that assisted reproduction is entitled to protection as a fundamental right in Illinois. Lastly, it expands patients' ability to receive hormonal birth control over the counter from a pharmacist.

(2023) AMENDMENT TO ANTI-BULLYING LAW - HB 3425 PUBLIC ACT 103-0047

Sponsors: Rep. Croke & Sen. Feigenholtz

HB 3425 expands existing protected categories in the anti-bullying law to include "pregnancy, parenting, socioeconomic status, academic status, physical appearance, homelessness," requires school administrators to notify parents or guardians within 24 hours of a report of bullying and provides grants to schools for anti-bullying programming.

(2023) GENDER INCLUSIVE CHILD WELFARE STATUTE - HB 1596 PUBLIC ACT 103-0022

Sponsors: Rep. Collins & Sen. Simmons

HB 1596 amends various child welfare and juvenile court statutes to reflect gender-inclusive language in laws relating to children and families to promote equality and respect for all individuals. The legislation takes a first step in responding to an Illinois Auditor General report from 2021 that urges the Department of Children & Family Services to affirm and recognize hundreds of young people in their care.