



June 6, 2024

The Honorable Chuck
Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.
20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
2433 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Chair Patty Murray
Vice Chair Senate Appropriations
Committee
154 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro
U.S. House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Anti-LGBTQ Poison Pills

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader Jeffries, Ranking Member Murray, and Ranking Member DeLauro,

As we enter a third consecutive year of unprecedented, coordinated, and escalating Congressional attacks on the LGBTQ+ community, we, the undersigned 85 organizations, urge you to remain steadfast in your commitment to equality and justice.

As you know, last year, House appropriators advanced a record number of anti-LGBTQ+ provisions in FY 2025 appropriations bills—provisions designed to erase, stigmatize, and marginalize LGBTQ+ communities. In contrast, the Senate rightly led with a bipartisan approach that rejected these efforts. Thanks to your leadership, all 55 anti-LGBTQ+ provisions were ultimately excluded from the final package. That outcome reflected a commitment to core American values: fairness, equality, and the right of all people to live authentically.

WORKING FOR LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER AND QUEER EQUAL RIGHTS

1640 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

P 202-628-4160 | F 202-423-2861 | HRC@HRC.ORG

We write to call on you to unequivocally fight against any of these anti-LGBTQ+ policy riders that may be included in the Fiscal Year 2026 appropriations process. These riders are not only discriminatory in their intent—they are deeply harmful in their impact. They seek to erode civil rights protections, undermine the dignity of LGBTQ+ people, and entrench exclusionary policies into federal law.

Provisions that would restrict gender-affirming care, license discrimination, ban Pride displays, block enforcement of nondiscrimination protections, or dismantle federal Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives have no place in federal funding legislation. These proposals are designed to further marginalize already vulnerable individuals based solely on sexual orientation, gender identity, or sex characteristics.

Moreover, these provisions are inconsistent with existing federal law, and allowing them to advance would mark a dangerous step backward for our democracy. Congress must not allow these discriminatory riders to move forward, whether embedded in base text or offered as amendments in committee or on the floor.

At a time when LGBTQ+ people at home and abroad—especially trans and nonbinary people—face real threats to their safety, healthcare access, and civil rights, Congress must send a clear, united message: hatred and discrimination will not be legislated into federal law.

We urge you to once again lead with integrity and resolve. Reject anti-LGBTQ+ policy riders. Protect the rights, dignity, and futures of all people. And continue to uphold the promise of equality that defines our nation at its best.

Sincerely,

Act Now: End AIDS (ANEA) Coalition
Advocates for Trans Equality
Advocates for Youth
AIDS Foundation Chicago (IL)
AIDS United
Alliance For TransYouth Rights (CA)
American Civil Liberties Union
American Jewish World Service
Americans United for Separation of Church and State
APLA Health (CA)
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN)

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Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network
AVAC
Callen-Lorde Community Health Center (NY)
CenterLink: The Community of LGBTQ Centers
Equality California (CA)
Equality Federation
Equality Florida (FL)
Equality Illinois (IL)
Equality New Mexico (NM)
EqualityMaine (ME)
Fair Wisconsin (WI)
Fairness Campaign (KY)
Family Equality
Family Values @ Work
Fast-Track Cities Institute
Fenway Health (MA)
FFRF Action Fund
Garden State Equality Action Fund (NJ)
Gender Justice (MN and WI)
Guttmacher Institute
Health GAP
HealthHIV
HIV Medicine Association
HIV+Hepatitis Policy Institute
Human Rights First
Human Rights Campaign
Ibis Reproductive Health
Immigration Equality
International Association of Providers of AIDS Care
Keshet
Lambda Legal
Los Angeles LGBT Center (CA)
Makom Shelanu Congregation (TX)
Mazzoni Center (PA)
Movement Advancement Project
NASTAD
National Coalition for LGBTQ Health
National Education Association
National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund
National LGBTQI+ Cancer Network
National Women's Law Center
National Working Positive Coalition

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New Ways Ministry
NMAC
North Dakota Human Rights Coalition (ND)
ORAM - Organization for Refuge, Asylum and Migration
OutFront Minnesota (MN)
PFLAG National
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Population Council
Positive Women's Network-USA
PrEP4All
Pride Action Tank/AFC (IL)
Pride At Work, AFL-CIO
Reproductive Freedom For All
Reproductive Justice Action Collective (ReJAC) (LA)
SAGE
San Francisco AIDS Foundation (CA)
Service Employees International Union (SEIU)
Silver State Equality (NV)
TaskForce Prevention and Community Services (IL)
The AIDS Institute
The Center for LGBTQ Health Equity, Chase Brexton Health Care (MD)
The Institute for Health Research & Policy at Whitman-Walker
The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center (NY)
The Reunion Project
The Trevor Project
TransFamily Support Services
Treatment Action Group (TAG)
UFCW OUTreach
Vivent Health (CO, IL, MI, MO, TX, WI)
Wyoming Equality (WY)