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Equality California | eqca.org

2007 Legislative Scorecard

Building
a State
of Equality





Moving California Forward

One word describes Equality California's legislative accomplishments in 2007: **Phenomenal.**

As a result of our efforts, LGBT youth will be better protected in our schools and in the juvenile justice system. Domestic partners will have more rights. And LGBT Californians will have the strongest civil rights protections in the nation.

Record-breaking Success

At the midway mark in the 2007-2008 legislative session, EQCA has already had record-breaking success.

Most Legislation Introduced

EQCA introduced a record 10 pieces of legislation in 2007 designed to advance the rights of LGBT people. It was the largest and most comprehensive LGBT legislative agenda in the history of our nation.

Most Legislation Passed

EQCA did what some thought impossible: passed all 10 of its sponsored measures in the Legislature.

Most Legislation Becomes Law

A record nine measures will become state law or official policy, despite fierce opposition from anti-LGBT extremists.

100% Scores Earned by Majority of Legislators

More than half of the California Legislature voted for LGBT rights 100 percent of the time.

Most Votes for Marriage Equality

The Religious Freedom and Civil Marriage Protection Act passed the Legislature by the widest margin ever.

Least Number of Legislators With a 0% Record

EQCA's bipartisan efforts led to the lowest number of legislators voting against LGBT rights in history.

Determined

Despite the undeniable growing support for marriage equality, and another historic vote by the Legislature, the governor vetoed our marriage bill. EQCA will not rest until all Californians have true equality.

As we move forward, we are more determined than ever to achieving that goal.



EQ CA

	Party	District	AB 43	SB 777	AB 394	SB 518	AB 14	SB 559	AB 102	SB 105	SJR 6	AJR 29	Rating
Betty Karnette	D	54	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	•	✓	100
Rick Keene	R	3	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	10
Paul Krekorian	D	43	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Doug La Malfa	R	2	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	-	0
John Laird	D	27	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Mark Leno	D	13	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Lloyd Levine	D	40	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Sally Lieber	D	22	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Ted Lieu	D	53	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Fiona Ma	D	12	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Bill Maze	R	34	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	10
Tony Mendoza	D	56	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Gene Mullin	D	19	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Alan Nakanishi	R	10	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	10
Pedro Nava	D	35	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Roger Niello	R	5	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	20
Fabian Nunez	D	46	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Nicole Parra	D	30	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	70
George Plescia	R	75	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	10
Anthony Portantino	D	44	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Curren Price	D	51	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Laura Richardson	D	55	✓	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	•	✓	N/A	•	✓	100
Sharon Runner	R	36	✗	✗	-	✗	-	✗	✗	✗	✗	-	0
Ira Ruskin	D	21	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Mary Salas	D	79	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Lori Saldana	D	76	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Jim Silva	R	67	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	10
Cameron Smyth	R	38	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	•	✗	✗	✗	✓	10
Jose Solorio	D	69	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Nell Soto	D	61	•	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Todd Spitzer	R	71	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	10
Audra Strickland	R	37	✗	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	✗	✓	10
Sandre Swanson	D	16	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Alberto Torrico	D	20	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
Van Tran	R	68	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	10
Mike Villines	R	29	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	-	0
Mimi Walters	R	73	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	10

GOVERNOR SCORECARD

	Party	District	AB 43	SB 777	AB 394	SB 518	AB 14	SB 559	AB 102	SB 105	SJR 6	AJR 29	Rating
Arnold Schwarzenegger	R	N/A	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	88

2007 EQCA SPONSORED

Protecting Our YOUTH

Juvenile Justice Safety and Protection Act | SB 518

Author: Senator Carole Migden, D-San Francisco

Partner Organization: National Center for Lesbian Rights

What it does: Creates a Youth Bill of Rights to protect all young people, including youth who are LGBT, from abuse and discrimination in California's Department of Juvenile Justice facilities. This first of its kind legislation also establishes a toll-free hotline youth can call to report abuse or discrimination.

Student Civil Rights Act | SB 777

Author: Senator Sheila Kuehl, D-Santa Monica

What it does: Prohibits curriculum that is discriminatorily biased against LGBT people and other protected groups. Establishes consistent civil rights protections in all public education programs. Protects students from harassment and bullying.

Safe Place to Learn Act | AB 394

Author: Assemblymember Lloyd Levine, D-Van Nuys

Partner Organization: Asian Americans for Civil Rights and Equality

What it does: Strengthens protections for youth, including those who identify as LGBT, in California public schools by ensuring that the state's nondiscrimination and anti-harassment policies are rigorously enforced. Requires the state to actively monitor school district compliance of California's existing anti-bias laws.

Strengthening Our FAMILIES

Religious Freedom and Civil Marriage Protection Act | AB 43

Author: Assemblymember Mark Leno, D-San Francisco

What it does: Would have allowed same-sex couples the right to marry in California. Would have protected religious freedom by reaffirming that no religious institution is required to solemnize marriages contrary to its beliefs.

Name Equality Act | AB 102

Author: Assemblymember Fiona Ma, D-San Francisco

Partner Organization: American Civil Liberties Union (California Affiliates)

What it does: Provides domestic partners the choice to select a family name when they register with the state.

Joint Income Tax Filing Implementation Bill | SB 105

Author: Senator Carole Migden, D-San Francisco

What it does: Simplifies the process of filing joint state income tax returns for registered domestic partners. Creates a worksheet California registered domestic partners will use to file jointly beginning with the 2007 tax year.

Fair and Equal Taxation for Surviving Partners Act | SB 559

Author: Senator Christine Kehoe, D-San Diego

Partner Organization: Lambda Legal

What it does: Reverses discriminatory tax increases for domestic partners who separated or lost a partner before a 2006 law went into effect protecting domestic partners against unfair property reassessments.

Empowering Our COMMUNITIES

Civil Rights Act of 2007 | AB 14

Author: Assemblymember John Laird, D-Santa Cruz

Partner Organization: California State Conference of the NAACP

What it does: Strengthens 51 state anti-bias laws to prohibit discrimination against LGBT people and other communities. Corrects deficiencies in state law that could leave some Californians unprotected.

Resolution Supporting the Repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" | SJR 6

Author: Senator Christine Kehoe, D-San Diego

What it does: Urges Congress and the president to repeal the federal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, which excludes able and willing LGBT people from serving openly in the military.

Hate Crimes Resolution | AJR 29

Author: Assemblymember Mike Eng, D-Monterey Park

What it does: Asks Congress and the president to strengthen the federal hate crimes law to protect victims who are targeted based on sexual orientation, gender identity or disability. Urges the passage of the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act.



METHODOLOGY AND SYMBOL KEY

The analysis of votes is based on the final floor votes cast on the measures. Yes votes are represented by "✓" and no votes are represented by "X." Legislators present, but not voting, are denoted by "-" which is equivalent to a "no" vote. Passage of legislation requires a "yes" vote by a 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 their vote included in the rating and are denoted on the scorecard with a "•" symbol. The governor was rated on legislation that reached his desk.



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Equality California is the state's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) civil rights and advocacy organization. EQCA sponsors legislation and coordinates efforts to ensure its passage, lobbies legislators, the governor and other government officials, builds coalitions, educates the public, develops grassroots strength and empowers other organizations and individuals to engage in the political process.



EQCA has successfully passed more than 40 pieces of civil rights legislation for the LGBT community – more than any other organization of its kind in the nation.



Working in partnership with California's LGBT Legislative Caucus, EQCA has strategically moved California from a state with extremely limited rights for LGBT Californians to a state with some of the most comprehensive civil rights protections in the country.

Building a State of Equality

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