



2008 Legislative Scorecard

48th Legislature—2nd Regular Session

Supporting Equality

A Record of
How Legislators Voted and
Which Bills They Sponsored



The 2nd Regular Session of the 48th Arizona State Legislature convened on January 14, 2008 for their opening session. The Legislature adjourned on Friday, June 27. During that time, Equality Arizona worked with our allies in the Legislature to introduce 8 bills covering a wide range of issues affecting the LGBT community. Working strategically with legislative leaders, we supported amendments to anti-gay bills and kept 2 of them off the Governor's desk.

It is our mission to secure, protect and defend the rights and welfare of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in Arizona. In the 2008 Legislative Scorecard, you'll find information about each pro-equality and anti-gay piece of legislation, along with a record of each legislator's position.

Equality Arizona Advocacy Fund

P.O. Box 25044
Phoenix, AZ 85002-5044

602-650-0900
www.equalityarizona.org

EQUALITY ARIZONA SUPPORTED...

A Bill of Rights for Children and Youth in Foster Care (HB2775). This bill would have established statutory rights for children and youth in foster care, including the right to be free from unfair treatment based on sexual orientation and gender identity/expression. It was assigned to the House Human Services and Health Committees. It received a hearing in the Human Services Committee, but did not receive a committee vote.

B Safe Schools (Amendment to HB2713). This amendment to HB 2713 would have allowed schools to continue to protect students from bullying, harassment and discrimination, while also protecting students' religious liberties. The amendment was defeated on the House floor by a voice vote. It was offered in the Senate Education K-12 Committee, but failed by a vote of 4-4 in committee. It was also defeated on the Senate floor by a 14-7 vote.

C Domestic Partnerships (SB1371 / HB2743). This bill would have established a statewide domestic partner registry, providing unmarried couples in committed relationships the same state rights and responsibilities as married couples. The Senate version was assigned to the Senate Public Safety & Human Services Committee. The House version was assigned to the House Judiciary Committee. Neither version was scheduled for a hearing.

D Civil Rights (SB1416 / HB2712). This legislation would have expanded existing civil rights statutes to prohibit discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations based on sexual orientation and gender identity/expression. It was assigned to the Senate Commerce and Economic Development Committee and the House Judiciary Committee, but was never scheduled for a hearing.

E Medically-accurate HIV/AIDS Education (SB1342 / HB2708). This bill would have repealed an existing statute that prohibits schools and educators from providing medically-accurate HIV/AIDS prevention education to gay and lesbian students. It was assigned to the Senate Education Committee and the House Education Committee but never received a hearing.

F Amancio Corrales Hate Crimes Act (SB1483 / HB 2752). This legislation, named after a Yuma victim whose murder was likely motivated by gender bias, would have expanded existing hate crimes statute to include gender identity/expression. It was assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee and the House Natural Resources & Public Safety Committee, but it was never scheduled for a hearing.

G Military Readiness Enhancement Act postcard (SM1004 / HM2001). This legislation would have been a formal expression of support from the state of Arizona for federal legislation to repeal the military's ban on openly gay servicemembers. It was assigned to the Senate Government Committee and the House Counties, Municipalities & Military Affairs Committee. It never received a hearing.

H Matthew Shepard Act postcard (SM1002 / HM2002). This legislation would have formally expressed support from the state of Arizona for federal legislation that expands federal hate crimes law to include sexual orientation and gender identity/expression. It was assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee and the House Judiciary Committee, though it never received a hearing.

I Uniting American Families Act postcard (SM1003 / HM2004). This legislation would have formally expressed support from the state of Arizona for federal legislation that would allow American citizens and permanent residents to sponsor their same-sex partner for immigration purposes in the same manner that married couples do. It was assigned to the Senate Public Safety & Human Services Committee and the House Homeland Security and Property Rights Committee. It was never scheduled for a hearing.

EQUALITY ARIZONA OPPOSED...

J Eliminating Domestic Partner Benefits (SB 1499) – This bill would have taken away domestic partner benefits from state employees. On April 1st, a regulatory board approved a rule change for state employee benefits, allowing state employees to include their domestic partner and their children in their healthcare benefits. This bill was defeated on the Senate floor by a 14-16 vote. Senator Pamela Gorman voted against the bill as a procedural maneuver to try to bring the bill back up for a vote. The bill was never reconsidered.

K Permitting School Bullying (HB2713). – This legislation would have permitted students to bully and harass other students in the name of religious freedom. It was written to protect the religious liberties of students in public schools. Those protections are already guaranteed under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. Efforts to amend the bill to prevent it from being used as a weapon for bias-motivated bullying and harassment in schools were defeated. The bill passed out of the House by a vote of 36-23. It passed out of the Senate by a vote of 16-10. Because of a technical amendment attached in the Senate, the bill was sent back to the House for final approval but was never scheduled for a final vote.

L Anti-marriage amendment (SCR1038 / HCR2065) – This legislation would have placed another constitutional amendment to limit marriage rights on the ballot. The original bills were SCR1038 and HCR 2065. SCR 1038 was assigned to the Senate Public Safety and Human Services Committee. It passed by a vote of 4-1, but was never scheduled for a floor vote. HCR 2065 was assigned to the House Judiciary Committee. It passed out of committee by a vote of 6-3. After it was amended on the House floor to create domestic partner benefits, the bill was never scheduled for a final floor vote.

M Anti-marriage amendment resurrected (SCR1042) – After failing to move forward, the anti-marriage amendment was revived in SCR 1042. Originally intended to establish a Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Day in Arizona, the bill's content was completely gutted and replaced with the language of the anti-marriage amendment. The bill passed out of the House Judiciary Committee with a 6-4 vote. It was approved on the House floor by a vote of 33-25. In the Senate, the bill failed once by a vote of 14-11. Senator Linda Gray voted against the bill so she could use a procedural maneuver to bring it back to the Senate floor. The bill was brought back up for a vote on reconsideration on the last day of the session and passed by a vote of 16-4.

Understanding the Legislative Process...The Basics:

For a bill to pass, it needs 16 votes in the Senate and 31 votes in the House of Representatives. A bill becomes law after it is approved by both Houses in the exact same form and is signed by the Governor. Ballot measures bypass the Governor and receive final approval or rejection from the voters.

Bills are assigned to committees by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House in their respective chambers. Committee chairs have the discretion to schedule a bill for a hearing and the leaders of the majority party in each house control whether or not a bill is voted on by the full House and Senate.

On the following pages...The Key:

- * Bill Sponsor or Co-Sponsor
- X Voted Against
Equality Arizona's Position
- ✓ Voted in Support of
Equality Arizona's Position

(Only recorded floor votes were included in this report)

Arizona House of Representatives

Key

X Voted Against Equality AZ's Position ✓ Voted in Support of Equality AZ's Position

* Bill Sponsor or Co-Sponsor

District	Representative	Equality AZ Supported										Equality AZ Opposed		
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	Lucy Mason—R											X	*	X
1	Andrew Tobin—R											X*	*	X
2	Albert Tom—D						*					✓		✓
2	Tom Chabin—D						*	*	*	*		✓		✓
3	Trish Groe—R										*	X*	*	X
3	Nancy McLain—R											X	*	X
4	Tom Boone—R											X	*	X
4	Judy Burges—R											X	*	X
5	Jack Brown—D									*		X	*	X
5	Bill Konopnicki—R											X	*	X
6	Doug Clark—R											X*	*	X
6	Sam Crump—R											X*	*	X
7	Ray Barnes – R											X	*	X
7	Nancy Barto—R											X*	*	X
8	John Kavanagh—R										*	X	*	X
8	Michele Reagan—R											X		X
9	Bob Stump—R											X	*	X
9	Rick Murphy—R											X	*	X
10	Jackie Thrasher—D						*					✓		✓
10	Jim Weiers—R											X	*	X
11	Mark DeSimone—D	*					*					✓		
11	Adam Driggs—R											X	*	X
12	Jerry Weiers—R											X	*	X
12	John Nelson—R											X	*	X
13	Steve Gallardo—D	*		*		*	*		*	*		✓		✓
13	Martha Garcia—D			*			*					✓		✓
14	Chad Campbell—D	*		*	*		*	*	*	*		✓		✓
14	Robert Meza—D	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*		✓		✓
15	David Lujan—D	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*		✓		✓
15	Kyrsten Sinema—D			*		*		*	*	*		✓		✓

Key

X Voted Against Equality AZ's Position ✓ Voted in Support of Equality AZ's Position

* Bill Sponsor or Co-Sponsor

District	Representative	Equality AZ Supported										Equality AZ Opposed		
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
16	Ben Miranda—D				*							✓		✓
16	Cloves Campbell—D			*	*		*					✓		✓
17	Ed Ableser—D	*		*	*	*		*	*	*		✓		✓
17	David Schapira—D						*		*			✓		✓
18	Russell Pearce—R										*	X*	*	X
18	Mark Anderson—R											X*	*	X
19	Kirk Adams—R										*	X	*	X
19	Rich Crandall—R										*	X	*	X
20	John McComish—R											X	*	X
20	Bob Robson—R											X*	*	X
21	Warde Nichols—R										*	X	*	X
21	Steven Yarbrough—R										*	X*	*	X
22	Eddie Farnsworth—R											X	*	X
22	Andy Biggs—R										*	X	*	X
23	Barbara McGuire—D											X		
23	Pete Rios—D											X		X
24	Lynne Pancrazi—D						*			*		✓		✓
24	Theresa Ulmer—D											✓		✓
25	Manuel Alvarez—D						*	*						✓
25	Jennifer Burns—R											X	*	✓
26	Pete Hershberger—R											X		✓
26	Nancy Young Wright—D						*		*			✓		✓
27	Phil Lopes—D			*			*	*	*			✓		✓
27	Olivia Cajero Bedford—D	*					*		*			✓		✓
28	Steve Farley—D	*					*	*	*	*		✓		✓
28	David Bradley—D							*	*	*		✓		✓
29	Linda Lopez—D			*			*		*	*		✓		✓
29	Tom Prezelski—D	*		*		*		*	*	*		✓		✓
30	Jonathan Paton—R											X	*	X
30	Marian McClure—R											X	*	X

Arizona House of Representatives

Arizona State Senate

Key

X Voted Against Equality AZ's Position ✓ Voted in Support of Equality AZ's Position

* Bill Sponsor or Co-Sponsor

District	Senator	Equality AZ Supported										Equality AZ Opposed			
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	
1	Tom O'Halleran—R		X									X	*	X	
2	Albert Hale—D			*	*	*			*	*	✓			✓	
3	Ron Gould—R		X								X*	X*	*	X	
4	Jack Harper—R		X								X*	X*	*	X	
5	Sylvia Allen—R		X								X	X		X	
6	Pamela Gorman—R		X								✓*	*	*	X	
7	Jim Waring—R		X								X	X	*	X	
8	Carolyn Allen—R										✓	X		✓	
9	Robert Burns—R		X								X	X	*	X	
10	Linda Gray—R		X								X*	X*	*	X	
11	Barbara Leff—R		X								X	X	*	X	
12	Robert Blendu—R		X								X*	X	*	X	
13	Richard Miranda—D		✓		*				*	*	✓				
14	Debbie McCune Davis—D		✓*			*					✓	✓		✓	
15	Ken Chevront—D		✓	*							✓	✓		✓	
16	Leah Landrum Taylor—D				*	*					✓				
17	Meg Burton Cahill—D		✓					*	*		✓	✓		✓	
18	Karen Johnson—R										X	*	*	X	
19	Chuck Gray—R		X								X	X	*	X	
20	John Huppenthal—R		X								X	X	*	X	
21	Jay Tibshraeny—R										X	X	*	X	
22	Thayer Verschoor—R		X								X	X	*	X	
23	Rebecca Rios—D		✓		*	*	*	*	*	*	✓	✓			
24	Amanda Aguirre—D		✓			*			*		✓	✓		✓	
25	Marsha Arzberger—D			*	*	*			*		✓	✓		✓	
26	Charlene Pesquiera—D			*	*						✓	✓		✓	
27	Jorge Luis Garcia—D		✓		*						✓	✓		✓	
28	Paula Aboud—D			*	*	*			*		✓	✓		✓	
29	Victor Soltero—D				*			*	*		✓	X			
30	Tim Bee—R		X								X	X	*	X	