

Legislative and Political Action Committee Report

- Meeting was held on **Thursday November 5th at 5:00 p.m.**
- The Legislation is not in session right now so no LGBTQ+ legislative actions were discussed at this time.
- Marvin Baker will continue to maintain the meeting schedule and disperse Zoom link and invitations to Legislation & Political Action Committee meetings.
- **A new section will be added to the monthly report briefly discussing relevant LGBTQ+ legislative history in CA.** The focus will be educational with the goal of broadening our own community awareness.
- A **Legislative tab** is being worked on to add to the FSD web page.
 - It will provide a link to the monthly Legislative Committee Report as submitted.
 - It will have a link to the HRC Legislative page.
 - It will have a link to the LGBTQ+ CA Dem Caucus page.
 - Relevant articles will be posted periodically as well.
- A **Supreme Court Watch Section** will be added to the Legislative Tab page with relevant articles on Justices prior rulings, present comments, or opinions relevant to the LGBTQ+ community.
- The **Equality Act** will be focused on during Nov and Dec.
- **The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Thursday December 3**
- **at 5:00 p.m.**

Legislative Terminology:

Closed sessions - Closed sessions of the Senate, sometimes referred to as secret sessions, are used for deliberations during impeachment trials, as well as to discuss issues of national security, confidential information, and sensitive communications from the president. Prior to 1795, every session of the Senate was closed.

Executive session - A portion of the Senate's daily session in which it considers executive business.

Joint session - When the House and Senate adopt a concurrent resolution to meet together to conduct formal business or to hear an address by the president of the United States.

"Lame duck" session - When Congress (or either chamber) reconvenes in an even-numbered year following the November general elections to consider various items of business. Some lawmakers who return for this session will not be in the next Congress. Hence, they are informally called "lame duck" members participating in a "lame duck" session.

Legislative day - A "day" that starts when the Senate meets after an adjournment and ends when the Senate next adjourns. Hence, a legislative day may extend over several calendar days or even weeks and months.

Legislative session - That part of the Senate's daily session in which it considers legislative business (bills, resolutions, and actions related thereto).

Morning business - Routine business that is supposed to occur during the first two hours of a new legislative day. This business includes receiving messages from the president and from the House of Representatives, reports from executive branch officials, petitions from citizens, memorials from states, and committee reports, and the introduction of bills and submission of resolutions. In practice, the Senate often does this business instead by unanimous consent at other convenient points in the day.

Pro forma session - From the Latin, meaning “as a matter of form,” a *pro forma* session is a brief meeting of the Senate (sometimes only a few minutes in duration).

Recess - A temporary interruption of the Senate's proceedings, sometimes within the same day. The Senate may also recess overnight rather than adjourn at the end of the day. Recess also refers to longer breaks, such as the breaks taken during holiday periods, pursuant to concurrent resolution.

Session - The period during which Congress assembles and carries on its regular business. Each Congress generally has two regular sessions (a first session and a second session), based on the constitutional mandate that Congress assemble at least once each year.

LGBTQ+ Legislative Update:

SB 7 88: The Equality Act: *Sponsor: Rep. David N. Cicilline [D-RI-1], Introduced 03/13/2019, Passed the House (05/17/2019)*

Latest Action: Senate - 05/20/2019 Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1. This bill prohibits discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity in a wide variety of areas including public accommodations and facilities, education, federal funding, employment, housing, credit, and the jury system. Specifically, the bill defines and includes sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity among the prohibited categories of discrimination or segregation.
2. The bill expands the definition of public accommodations to include places or establishments that provide
 - (1) exhibitions, recreation, exercise, amusement, gatherings, or displays.
 - (2) goods, services, or programs; and
 - (3) transportation services.
3. The bill allows the Department of Justice to intervene in equal protection actions in federal court on account of sexual orientation or gender identity.
4. Protections against discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin shall include protections against discrimination based on

11/10/10

- (1) an association with another person who is a member of such a protected class;
or
 - (2) a perception or belief, even if inaccurate, that an individual is a member of such a protected class. The bill prohibits the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 from providing a claim, defense, or basis for challenging such protections.
5. The bill prohibits an individual from being denied access to a shared facility, including a restroom, a locker room, and a dressing room, that is in accordance with the individual's gender identity.

Stay tuned...

[From https://joebiden.com/lgbtq-policy/#](https://joebiden.com/lgbtq-policy/#)

Biden will make enactment of the Equality Act during his first 100 days as President a top legislative priority. Biden will also direct his Cabinet to ensure immediate and full enforcement of the Equality Act across all federal departments and agencies.

Respectfully submitted, Beverly Senkowski, Chair