

May 2021

Anti-Trans Bills

Avni Rao & Stella Crouch

There are so far more than 250 anti-LGBTQ+ bills under consideration in State legislatures across the country. This coincides with a rise in anti-LGBTQ+ bills and policies being introduced across the world such as Poland's "LGBTQ+ free zones, Egypt forcing "virginity tests" on people thought to be LGBTQ+ and Morocco defines "homosexuality as unnatural and punishable by six months to three years in prison. Of those, more than 120 directly target transgender people, and at least 66 of those would, like HB 391, ban transgender girls from participating in sports consistent with their gender identity.

Alabama:

On April 23, 2021, Alabama Governor Kay Ivey signed house bill 391, an anti-trans bill similar to the one passed by Florida state. Alabama, one of the 30 states that have introduced anti-LGBTQ legislation this session, part of a large effort to hinder LGBTQ progress in the United States. This bill was designed to discriminate against an already vulnerable population. According to hrc.org, "The NCAA Board of Governors [released a public letter](#) making clear that it 'firmly and unequivocally supports the opportunity for transgender student-athletes to compete in college sports.' Moreover, 'When determining where championships are held, NCAA policy directs that only locations where hosts can commit to providing an environment that is safe, healthy and free of discrimination should be selected.' This puts the 30 states with discriminatory anti-transgender" The NCAA opposes efforts to limit participation of transgender students in sports.

Furthermore, according to the Human Rights Campaign. Texas Senate Bill 1646—which has not been passed yet—would make it a felony for parents to offer their children gender-affirming medical care as part of a transition, defining it as child abuse. This is considered one of the most shocking bills being passed in Texas, if not the country.

Florida

Florida Senate adopted an anti-transgender House amendment to SB 1028, an education bill. As amended, SB 1028 would ban all transgender youth from participating in school sports consistent with their gender identity. The bill now heads to Governor Ron DeSantis for review. He is expected to pass the bill. The legislation passed the same day President Biden in his first address to Congress promised to sign the Equality Act, which stands in direct opposition to this and bills in other states.

“To all the transgender Americans watching at home — especially the young people who are so brave — I want you to know that your president has your back,” Biden said. The president of the Human Rights Campaign, Alphonso David, said: “Some people in this country have not come to terms with treating trans people like human beings, it’s now coming to a head.”

The time for concrete change and direct action is now. [Contact your state representative here.](#)

Sources:

<https://www.advocate.com/transgender/2021/4/21/floridas-anti-trans-sports-bill-wont-pass>

<https://www.hrc.org/press-releases/alabama-gov-kay-ivey-signs-anti-trans-sports-bill-into-law><https://www.al.com/news/2021/04/no-big-backlash-for-alabama-other-states-passing-anti-transgender-laws.html>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/nicholasreimann/2021/04/22/2021-will-become-record-breaking-year-for-anti-lgbtq-laws-advocacy-group-warns/?sh=4e34962e7549>