



FOR  ALL
**EQUALITY
CALIFORNIA**

2018 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD



A MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RICK ZBUR AND NATIONAL POLICY DIRECTOR VALERIE PLOUMPIS

Dear friends,

The last two years have tried and tested the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) community like never before. But Equality California is up for the fight, and our Washington, DC office once again went to work, resisting the Trump-Pence Administration's anti-LGBTQ, anti-woman, anti-immigrant agenda in the nation's capital.

Given the fact that leaders of both chambers of Congress and the Administration were staunchly opposed to LGBTQ civil rights and social justice, we have assessed our movement's achievements in Washington, DC on something of a sliding scale, rather than the number of bills passed or defeated. Had the LGBTQ community and our Equality California members not been so vigilant and full-throated, some outcomes may have been far worse, and the Trump-Pence Administration's attempts to roll back critical protections for LGBTQ people and the communities to which we belong could have gone unseen and unchallenged. Brett Kavanaugh may be on the Supreme Court today, but the movement to defeat his nomination activated millions of people across California and the nation in the fight to protect our courts — and California's Dr. Christine Blasey Ford gave voice to millions of survivors of sexual assault.

Throughout 2018, the Trump-Pence Administration and their allies in Congress exhibited no inclination to work across the aisle to expand access to quality health care, enact common-sense gun safety reforms, fix our immigration system or pass the Equality Act. Clearly tired of their partisan games and refusal to fight for the people they represent, California voters — and voters across the country — replaced anti-LGBTQ incumbents with pro-equality champions this November.

With the Speaker's gavel back in the hands of San Francisco's favorite daughter and a pro-equality majority restored to the U.S. House of Representatives, we will continue to play defense against the Administration's attacks, while fighting with everything we've got to advance our pro-equality agenda in Congress.

In solidarity,



Rick Zbur
Executive Director
Equality California



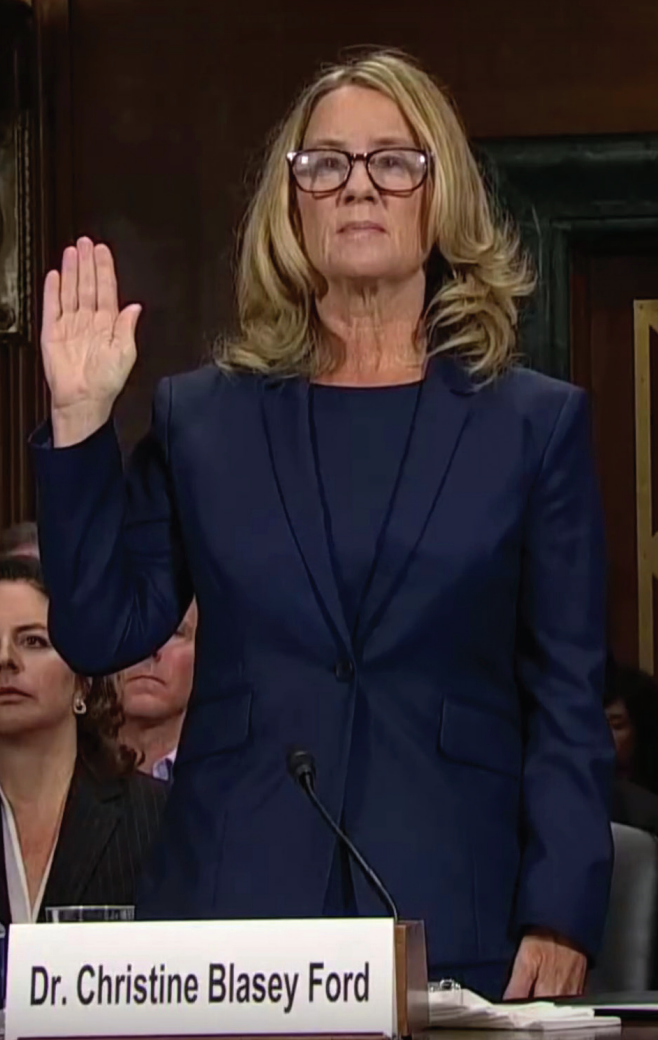
Valerie Ploumpis
National Policy Director
Equality California

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SCORED FEDERAL BILLS AND NOMINATIONS

Because the leadership of both chambers of Congress refused to bring pro-equality legislation to the floor in 2018, Equality California's 2018 Federal Legislative Scorecard includes no House votes and just two Senate votes — on the nominations of anti-LGBTQ extremists Mike Pompeo to serve as U.S. Secretary of State and Brett Kavanaugh to serve as an Associate Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court. While President Trump has nominated many anti-LGBTQ people to the federal bench and key positions within the Executive Branch — many of whom Equality California worked with our coalition partners to vigorously oppose this year — Pompeo and Kavanaugh were our top two priorities this year because of the level of danger both pose to the LGBTQ community.

In order to assess the records of members of the California delegation on pro-equality legislation, Equality California has scored co-sponsorship of such legislation as equal merit to an actual vote. This legislation includes the Equality Act [H.R. 2282 and S. 1006], the bipartisan DREAM Act [H.R. 3440 and S. 1615], the Therapeutic Fraud Prevention Act [H.R. 2119 and S. 928], the Do No Harm Act [H.R. 3222 and S. 2918], the Student Non-Discrimination Act [H.R. 5374 and S. 2584] and the Safe Schools Improvement Act [H.R. 1957 and S. 2572]. Our purpose in highlighting these six bill is to elevate their importance, begin the process of public education and secure the early commitment of Members in a future Congress:

MIKE POMPEO

Confirmation as U.S. Secretary of State

Throughout his career, Secretary Pompeo has been a staunch opponent of LGBTQ equality, opposing the Violence Against Women Act and the repeal of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' and cosponsoring multiple bills during his service in the U.S. House of Representatives that would have slowed the spread of marriage equality and provided a 'license to discriminate' against the LGBTQ community. He refused to disavow those positions during his Senate confirmation hearing, making it clear that he was unfit to advocate for the United States' key role as a vocal proponent of LGBTQ human rights around the world — in an Administration that has sought to scale back our moral leadership in the advancement of human rights.

BRETT KAVANAUGH

Confirmation as Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court

Even before credible allegations of sexual misconduct and assault were made against then-Judge Kavanaugh, Equality California strongly opposed his nomination to the Supreme Court on the basis of his judicial record, in which he demonstrated hostility to the Affordable Care Act, reproductive freedom, common-sense gun safety laws and hard-won legal protections for LGBTQ people and the diverse communities to which we belong. Equality California ramped up our opposition to Judge Kavanaugh's nomination in the wake of Dr. Christine Blasey Ford's decision to come forward and share her story with the nation, as his confirmation was inconsistent with our commitment to ending our societal culture of sexual assault, harassment and misconduct.

SCORED FEDERAL BILLS AND NOMINATIONS *[continued]*

THE EQUALITY ACT

H.R. 2282 by Rep. David Cicilline (D-RI) and S.1006 by Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR)

This proposal would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include sex, sexual orientation and gender identity among the prohibited categories of discrimination or segregation in places of public accommodation, as well as public schools, any programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance, employers with 15+ employees and government employees.

THE DREAM ACT

H.R. 3440 by Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA) and S. 1615 by Sens. Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Lindsey Graham (R-SC)

This bipartisan proposal would give immigrants who arrived in the United States before their 18th birthday and before Dec 31, 2016, an opportunity to apply for permanent legal status if they meet certain requirements. The Dream Act was scored because Equality California estimates approximately 250,000 LGBTQ people live in California alone.

THE THERAPEUTIC FRAUD PREVENTION ACT

H.R. 2119 by Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA) and S. 928 by Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)

This proposal would direct the Federal Trade Commission to treat the advertising of so-called “conversion therapy” as a fraudulent medical practice. In 2012, Congressman Lieu authored SB 1172, sponsored by Equality California, which became the first statewide law to protect LGBTQ minors from so-called “conversion therapy.” Since that time, six additional states and several municipalities have enacted similar bans.

THE DO NO HARM ACT

H.R. 3222 by Reps. Joseph Kennedy III (D-MA) Robert “Bobby” Scott (D-VA) and S. 2918 by Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA)

This proposal would clarify that the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993’s original intent was to protect religious exercise but could not be used to violate civil rights by using the justification of religious exemptions.

THE STUDENT NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT

H.R. 5374 by Rep. Jared Polis (D-CO) and S. 2584 by Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)

This proposal would explicitly prohibit public schools from discriminating against any student on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity. It would also protect students who associate with LGBTQ people, including students with LGBTQ parents or friends.

THE SAFE SCHOOLS IMPROVEMENT ACT

H.R. 1957 by Rep. Linda Sánchez (D-CA) and S. 2572 by Sen. Robert Casey (D-PA)

This proposal would require schools to implement comprehensive anti-bullying and harassment policies that ensure the safety and well-being of all their students, including youth who are bullied or harassed on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.



BILLS SUPPORTED, BUT NOT SCORED

The LGBTQ community would have won considerable protections had two other bills passed, which is we have highlighted the ‘Every Child Deserves a Family’ Act (H.R. 2640) and the Health Equity and Accountability Act (HR 5942) as non-scored legislative proposals:

THE HEALTH EQUITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

H.R. 5942 by Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA) and the Tri-Caucus and S. 3660 by Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-HI)

This proposal would reduce ethnic and racial disparities in access to healthcare and outcomes and is powerfully “holistic” in that it includes sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, language, immigration status, age, disability and socio-economic status.

THE EVERY CHILD DESERVES A FAMILY ACT

H.R. 2640 by Rep. John Lewis (D-GA) and S. 1303 by Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)

This proposal would prohibit any entity that receives federal child welfare funds from discriminating against prospective adoptive or foster parents on the bases of their sexual orientation, gender identification or marital status, or on the bases of the sexual orientation or gender identity of the child involved.

METHODOLOGY

In the scorecard that follows, the analysis of votes is based on the final floor votes, as well as co-sponsorship of legislation that is so significant to the LGBTQ community that we have assigned it equal weight to a vote. Pro-equality votes or co-sponsorship of pro-equality federal legislation are represented by “+.” Anti-LGBTQ votes or lack of co-sponsorship are represented by “-.” Members who were officially absent for a vote did not have that vote factored into the rating and are denoted on the scorecard with an “E” for “excused.” The overall score reflects officials’ votes on Equality California scored legislation [highlighted in DARK BLUE]. Scores relating to co-sponsoring federal bills were determined based on the information we had as of December 21, 2017. Highlighted in YELLOW is co-sponsorship of priority legislation NOT factored into this year’s scoring. The information for non-scored legislation are included for informational purposes only. Though NOT factored into this year’s scoring, they may be included in the future. Openly LGBTQ Members are denoted with an “*” and sponsors of priority pro-equality legislation are denoted with a “+” next to their names.

HOUSE

Member	Party	District	H.R.2282	H.R.3440	H.R.2119	H.R.3222	H.R.5374	H.R.1957	Total	H.R.5942	H.R.2640
Aguilar	D	31	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Barragán	D	44	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Bass	D	37	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Bera	D	7	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	-
Brownley	D	26	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	-
Calvert	R	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	-
Carbajal	D	24	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Cárdenas	D	29	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	+
Chu	D	27	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Cook	R	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	-
Correa	D	46	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	+
Costa	D	16	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	-
Davis	D	53	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	-
Denham	R	10	-	+	-	-	-	-	17%	-	-
DeSaulnier	D	11	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	-
Eshoo	D	18	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	+
Garamendi	D	3	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	-
Gomez	D	34	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Huffman	D	2	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	-
Hunter	R	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	-
Issa	R	49	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	-
Khanna	D	17	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	+
Knight	R	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	-
LaMalfa	R	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	-
Lee+	D	13	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Lieu+	D	33	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Lofgren	D	19	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	+
Lowenthal	D	47	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Matsui	D	6	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
McCarthy	R	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	-
McClintock	R	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	-
McNerney	D	9	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	-

HOUSE

Member	Party	District							Total		
			H.R.2282	H.R.3440	H.R.2119	H.R.3222	H.R.5374	H.R.1957		H.R.5942	H.R.2640
Napolitano	D	32	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	+
Nunes	R	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	-
Panetta	D	20	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	-
Pelosi	D	12	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	-
Peters	D	52	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	-
Rohrabacher	R	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	-
Roybal-Allard+	D	40	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Royce	R	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	-
Ruiz	D	36	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	-
Sánchez+	D	38	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Schiff	D	28	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Sherman	D	30	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	-
Speier	D	14	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Swalwell	D	15	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Takano *	D	41	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Thompson	D	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	-
Torres	D	35	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+
Valadao	R	21	-	+	-	-	-	-	17%	-	-
Vargas	D	51	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	-
Walters	R	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	-
Waters	D	43	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	-

SENATE

Member	Party	Pompeo	Kavanaugh							Total		
				S. 1006	S. 1615	S. 928	S. 2918	S. 2584	S. 2572		S. 3660	S. 1303
Feinstein	D	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	-	+
Harris+	D	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	+	+



EQUALITY CALIFORNIA

Equality California is the nation's largest statewide lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) civil rights organization.

Equality California brings the voices of LGBTQ people and allies to institutions of power in California and across the United States, striving to create a world that is healthy, just, and fully equal for all LGBTQ people. We advance civil rights and social justice by inspiring, advocating, and mobilizing through an inclusive movement that works tirelessly on behalf of those we serve.

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