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## LGBTQ Youth: LGBTQ Curricular Laws

No updates required since August 16, 2023

**LGBTQ-Inclusive Curricular Standards:** These laws explicitly require the state’s curricular standards to include LGBTQ people and history, such as in subjects like history, civics, or social studies. Often these laws also require inclusive representation of other communities, such as specific communities of color, people with disabilities, or religious minorities. Visit [GLSEN](#) to learn more about the importance of inclusive curricular standards, as well as the difference between curricular standards and curriculum.

**Negative Law: Parental Opt-Out of LGBTQ-Related Curricula:** The laws require parents to be notified in advance of any LGBTQ-related curricula and allow parents to opt their children out of these classes. These laws build on existing state laws about parental notification and opt-out for sex education, but the LGBTQ opt-out laws are distinct because they require parental notification and opt-out for *any* LGBTQ- or sexuality-related content, regardless of whether or not the content is in the context of sex education. For more about sex education policy, including parental notification laws, see [SIECUS](#)'s research.

**Negative Law: “Don’t Say Gay or Trans” or “Don’t Say LGBTQ” Laws:** These policies restrict schoolteachers and staff from discussing LGBTQ issues and people at all. In older policies (such as in LA or TX), these ban such discussion within sex education programming, but they were often intentionally written to be vague and can be misapplied by schools to limit discussion and inclusion of LGBTQ people and issues in other parts of the curriculum, school events and programs, and even extracurricular activities (e.g., incorrectly interpreted to prohibit Gay-Straight or Gender-Sexuality Alliances (GSAs)). More recent policies (such as in FL) explicitly censor such discussions throughout all school curricula, not only in sex/health education.

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### Alabama

- State has “**Don't Say Gay or Trans**” law. See [HB 322](#) (2022).
- Previously, state had “Don't Say Gay” law ([SB 72](#), 1992), repealed by [HB 385](#) (2021).

### Alaska

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

### Arizona

- State law requires **parental notification of LGBTQ-related curricula and allows parents to opt children out**. See [HB 2035](#) (see Sec 15-102(A)(5)) (July 2021).
  - Bill requires parental opt-in for all sex education classes, and allows for parental opt-out for any instruction “regarding sexuality” outside of sex education classes.
- Formerly had “Don’t Say Gay” law (SB 1396, 1991), repealed by [SB 1346](#) (2019).



#### Arkansas

- State has **“Don't Say Gay or Trans”** law. Applies to grades K-4. See [SB294/Act 237](#) (2023).
- State law requires **parental notification of LGBTQ-related curricula and allows parents to opt children out**. See [SB389 / Act 552](#) (April 2021).

#### California

- State law requires **LGBTQ-inclusive curricular standards**. See [SB48](#) (2011).

#### Colorado

- State law requires **LGBTQ-inclusive curricular standards**. See [HB1192](#) (2019).

#### Connecticut

- State law requires **LGBTQ-inclusive curricular standards**. See [HB6619](#), included in budget bills [SB1202/HB6689](#) (see Sec 29(b) item 25, p44 of HB6689) (2021).

#### Delaware

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### District of Columbia

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Florida

- State has **“Don't Say Gay or Trans”** law. See [HB1557](#) (2022; K-3), [HB1069](#) (2023; preK-8) and State Board of Education rules [6A-10.081](#) (2023; preK-12\*).
  - \*Note, the Board rule bans all instruction for grades preK-3, and also bans for grades 4-12 unless such instruction is “expressly required by state academic standards” or as part of a reproductive health course/lesson that parents can opt their children out of.
- State law requires **parental notification of LGBTQ-related curricula and allows parents to opt children out**. See [HB241](#) (see Sec 1014.05(d), p8) (June 2021).

#### Georgia

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Hawai'i

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Idaho

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Illinois

- State law requires **LGBTQ-inclusive curricular standards**. See [HB246](#) (2019).

#### Indiana

- State has **“Don't Say Gay or Trans”** law, for grades preK-3. See [HB1608](#) (2023).



#### Iowa

- State has “**Don't Say Gay or Trans**” law, for grades K-6. See [SF496](#) (2023), Section 16.

#### Kansas

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Kentucky

- State has “**Don't Say Gay or Trans**” law, for all grades K-12. See [SB150](#) (2023), Section 2(1)(d)2.

#### Louisiana

- State has “**Don't Say Gay**” law (HB484, July 1987). See [La. Rev. Stat. § 17:281A\(3\)](#).

#### Maine

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Maryland

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Massachusetts

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Michigan

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Minnesota

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Mississippi

- State has “**Don't Say Gay**” law ([HB1304](#), 1998). See [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-13-171](#).

#### Missouri

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Montana

- State law requires **parental notification of LGBTQ-related curricula** and allows parents to opt children out. See [SB99](#) (April 2021) and [SB518](#) (May 2023).
  - SB99 (2021) is written as requiring parental notification of sex education, but defines sex education to include any information about sexual orientation or gender identity.
  - SB518 (2023) allows parents to withdraw child from any instruction or presentations, assemblies, guest lectures, or other educational events facilitated by a school's faculty or staff, including those conducted by outside individuals or organizations, that offend the parent's beliefs or practices.”



#### Nebraska

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Nevada

- State law requires **LGBTQ-inclusive curricular standards**. See [AB261](#) (2021).

#### New Hampshire

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### New Jersey

- State law requires **LGBTQ-inclusive curricular standards**. See [S1569/A1335](#) (2019).

#### New Mexico

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### New York

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### North Carolina

- State has **“Don't Say Gay or Trans”** law, applies to grades K-4. See [S49](#), §115C-76.55 (2023).
- Formerly had “Don't Say Gay” law ([H834/S788](#), 1995), repealed by [SB602](#) (2006).

#### North Dakota

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Ohio

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Oklahoma

- State has **“Don't Say Gay”** law (HB1476, April 1987). See [Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 11-103.3\(D\)](#).

#### Oregon

- State law requires **LGBTQ-inclusive curricular standards**. See [HB2023](#) (2019).

#### Pennsylvania

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Rhode Island

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### South Carolina

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws
- Formerly had “Don't Say Gay” law ([Act No. 437](#), 1988), repealed by [court settlement](#) (2020).



#### South Dakota

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Tennessee

- State law requires **parental notification of LGBTQ-related curricula and requires parents to opt children in to this instruction**. See [HB727/SB1443](#) (2023). See [HB529/SB1229](#) (May 2021) for an earlier opt-out law.

#### Texas

- State has “**Don't Say Gay**” law ([HB949/SB404](#), 1991; see relevant sections beginning page 49). See [Texas Health & Safety Code § 85.007](#) and [Texas Health & Safety Code § 163.002](#).

#### Utah

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws
- Formerly had “Don't Say Gay” law ([SB75](#), 2001; see former [Utah Code § 53A-13-101](#)), repealed by [SB196](#) (2017).

#### Vermont

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Virginia

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Washington

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### West Virginia

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Wisconsin

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Wyoming

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

### U.S. Territories

#### American Samoa

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

#### Guam

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws



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Northern Mariana Islands

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

Puerto Rico

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws

U.S. Virgin Islands

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws