

Tell Congress to pass ENDA before it leaves for break!



Illinois protects LGBT individuals against workplace discrimination, but it is still LEGAL to FIRE workers for being gay, lesbian or bisexual in 29 states and for being transgender in 38 states! Tell Congress ENOUGH is ENOUGH – pass ENDA.

We fought long and hard in Illinois to make this law a reality and the same type of resolve is needed to pass ENDA nationally. It is time to take a stand and ensure that the Employment Non Discrimination Act (**ENDA - H.R. 3017/S. 1584**) passes Congress. We need to enact express protections against workplace discrimination for lesbian, gay, bisexual, AND transgender people, because employment decisions should be based upon a person's qualifications and job performance and not sexual orientation or gender identity.

Overall, there are 202 cosponsors in the House (*12 out of 19 Reps from the Illinois delegation cosponsored the bill*), and 45 cosponsors in the Senate (*both Illinois Senators cosponsored the bill*). Check out the list of cosponsors in the [House](#) and [Senate](#).

What has Equality Illinois done?

- Coordinated hundreds of letters and emails from constituents to their U.S. Representatives in support of ENDA;
- Published an open letter to the Illinois Congressional Delegation urging ENDA passage, co-signed by dozens of Illinois religious, civic, civil rights and labor organizations;
- Organized Equality Illinois members in key districts across the state, helping them call their members of Congress expressing their support;
- Worked, through the Allied for Equality project, on getting in-district meetings set up with their members of Congress;
- Partnered with national organizations on re-assessing the Capitol Hill strategy and bringing you the latest developments.

Equality Illinois will continue to do the work highlighted above until ENDA is passed and signed.

How can YOU help?

- **Call the U.S. Capitol Switchboard** at (202) 224-3121 and urge your member of Congress to pass ENDA now. Enough is enough! If your legislator is a cosponsor of the bill, please THANK them for their continued support.

Sample call script: *“My name is _____ and I am proud resident and voter in CITY, IL. I am calling the Representative to voice my support for the passage of the Employment Non Discrimination Act (H.R. 3017), which protects honest, hardworking Americans from job discrimination. No one should lose their job because they are (or are perceived to be) lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. Please pass ENDA now! I would like a response to my call – here is my [email address or phone number]. Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.”*

- **Contact Equality Illinois to set up in-district meetings** during Congress' recess from August 9-September 10.
- **Learn more about ENDA** at our [website](#).

Please support our work with a [financial contribution](#) today. We cannot do our work without YOUR support! Thank you.