

# NSW LGBTIQ+ EQUALITY BILL

**NSW CURRENTLY  
HAS THE WORST LAWS  
FOR LGBTIQ+ EQUALITY**



**Did you know LGBTIQ+ staff and students at religious schools can be fired or expelled in NSW? Or that staff at a faith-based nursing home can be fired for being LGBTIQ+? The LGBTIQ+ Equality Bill will fix that. We all deserve to live a life of dignity and respect.**

**So, what's in the bill?** If it passes and becomes law, it would:

- Better protect all LGBTIQ+ people from discrimination** at work, school or when accessing disability or aged care services. Students and staff at religious schools will no longer be able to be fired, expelled or discriminated against simply because of their sexuality or gender identity, and faith-based providers will need to treat LGBTIQ+ people equally when providing services like healthcare, accommodation or disability support.
- Have ID that reflects who we are.** Trans and gender diverse people will be able to update their gender on their government ID without having to undergo surgery.
- Better protect our community from violence.** Recognising the unique forms of family and personal violence experienced by LGBTIQ+ people, people with HIV and sex workers by allowing them to seek protection from being outed.
- Fairer access to healthcare.** This bill would standardise the laws on medical consent, so that most young people aged 16 and over can consent to their own medical care, including gender affirming care, in the same way as adults. Under the age of 16, young people will need the approval of one parent, saving families from having to go to court.
- Better recognise rainbow families.** While the ban on commercial surrogacy remains, a court will be able to grant parental recognition to the parents of children born through surrogacy. Surrogates will have more concrete protections to manage their own pregnancy and birth, and parents who go overseas legally to undertake surrogacy won't be criminalised back at home.
- Equal protection under the law.** The bill fixes many NSW laws that discriminate against LGBTIQ+ people including by ensuring trans and intersex people are protected under hate crimes sentencing laws and can choose the person they feel most comfortable with when searches are conducted on their bodies. The Bill also removes legal stigma against people with HIV and sex workers.
- Better government data collection.** This bill ensures that government schools must have forms suitable for students with two mums or two dads and a trans person can accurately describe their gender in a hospital intake form.
- And more!** From ensuring decisions made about us take into account our unique needs through to promoting equal opportunity in government recruitment practices, there's something for everyone in our community that will make life better.