



League of United Latin American Citizens

LULAC SUPPORTS THE EQUALITY ACT

The League of United Latin American Citizens has taken bold steps in the past decade to support the rights of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer community. From supporting Marriage Equality, repealing Don't Ask Don't Tell, supporting federal anti-hate crimes legislation, and supporting the Employee Non Discrimination Act, LULAC has been a reliable progressive partner to the LGBTQ Civil Rights Movement. Since 2006, LGBTQ LULAC Councils have been welcomed into the LULAC family and a National LULAC LGBTQ Affairs Committee was launched in 2018. We have an opportunity to stand on the right side of history again by endorsing a new law to ensure LGBTQ people receive non-discrimination protections.

WHEREAS, our nation's civil rights laws protect people on the basis of race, color, national origin, and in most cases, sex, disability, and religion, but federal law does not provide consistent non-discrimination protections based on sexual orientation or gender identity;

WHEREAS, despite significant steps forward, LGBTQ Americans lack basic legal protections in states across the country and rely on a current patchwork of state-by-state equality laws;

WHEREAS 50 percent of LGBTQ Americans live in the 30 states without explicit, uniform legal protections, meaning that they're at risk of being fired, denied housing, and refused service simply because of who they are or who they love;

WHEREAS nearly two-thirds of LGBTQ Americans report having experienced discrimination in their personal lives;

WHEREAS the Equality Act would provide consistent and explicit non-discrimination protections for LGBTQ people across key areas of life, including employment, housing, credit, education, public spaces and services, federally funded programs, and jury service;

WHEREAS the Equality Act would amend existing civil rights law-including the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Fair Housing Act, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Jury Selection and Services Act, and several laws regarding employment with the federal government- to explicitly include sexual orientation and gender identity as protected characteristic;

WHEREAS the legislation also amends the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to prohibit discrimination in public spaces and services and federally funded programs on the basis of sex;

WHEREAS the nonpartisan Public Region Research Institute (PRRI) found that nationally, support for a bill like the Equality Act topped 70 percent, which includes a majority of Democrats, Republicans, and Independents;

WHEREAS LULAC, in its constitution, pledges to exert its unified efforts to uphold the rights guaranteed to every individual by our state and national laws and to assure justice and equal treatment under these laws;

WHEREAS LULAC, in its constitution, promises to combat with every means at our command all un-American tendencies and actions that deprive American citizens of their rights in educational institutions, in economic pursuits and in social, civic, and political activities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that LULAC Council 11125 calls on LULAC and its membership to support the passage of the Equality Act (HR 5 and S 788)

Authored by Jesse Garcia, LULAC Council 11125, Washington, D.C.

Approved on March 12, 2019 by LULAC Council 11125

Approved on April 27, 2019 by the LULAC District of Columbia

Voted & approved by the National Assembly of the 2019 LULAC National Convention on July 13, 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Domingo Garcia". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'D'.

Domingo Garcia
LULAC National President