



2024 State of Sex Education Legislative Look-Ahead

Updated
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sex ed.



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Summary

2023 had been a whirlwind year for legislation at both the state and federal level, with many key losses for sex education, access to sexual health services, and LGBTQIA+ rights. While sex education advocates were able to introduce policies that would improve access to sex education, the opposition successfully passed restrictive sex education laws in **8** states, an **800% increase in anti-sex education bills passed into law compared to 2022** (where only one such bill passed). The impact of these policies will be devastating for the youth living in the states where these bills were passed.

Some of the major trends that emerged in 2023 is that the opposition, also known as the Regressive Minority, continues to believe “parental rights” and similar misinformation tactics that seek to play off parents’ fears are a winning strategy, despite all evidence to the contrary. However, the sheer volume of bills introduced in 2023 to restrict sex education in primary grade levels, restrict the discussion of sexual orientation and gender identity in sex education, and limit instruction on certain subjects within sex education – **over 100 regressive bills across 31 states** – resulted in just 9 bills passing in 8 states, representing **an 8.26% success rate**. These bills inherently restrict sex education overall because they take us further away from what the National Sex Education Standards, a K-12 curriculum framework co-developed and supported by SIECUS and its movement partners, has outlined as quality sex education. Moreover, these are attempts from the opposition to chip away at the legacy of progress by sexual freedom advocates. These laws leave young people vulnerable to not only a lack of information, but also susceptible to disinformation. Additionally, they further stigmatize and ostracize members of the LGBTQIA+ community and create unsafe home and educational settings for all young people in a community.

Despite the passage of these restrictive bills, there were **almost 20% more positive sex education bills introduced in the 2023 session than the previous year**, showcasing the efforts of sexual freedom advocates to respond to the opposition’s attacks. Some of these bills include legislation that would make sex education more comprehensive by adding more content areas, making sex education more inclusive, ensuring sex education is medically accurate and developmentally appropriate, and much more. In addition to advancing legislation at the policy level, several states, such as New Jersey and Massachusetts, *improved* sex education by amending statewide sex education policies and regulations via state and local governmental agencies. The most promising example of this was the newly approved and updated Massachusetts’ *Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Framework*, revised late summer of 2023.

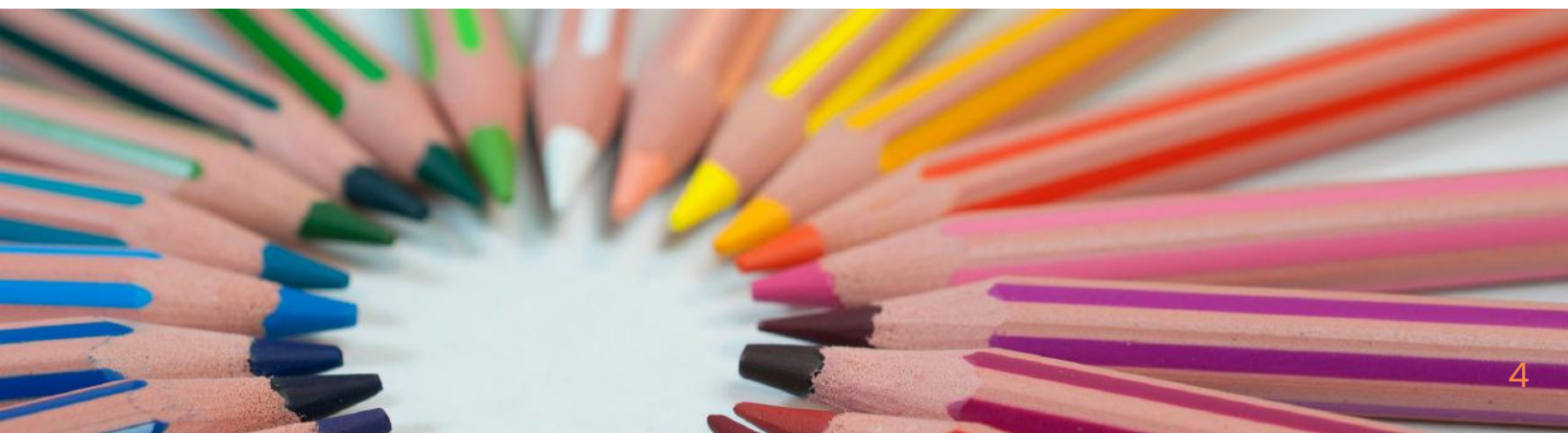
- **800%** increase in anti-sex education bills passed into law compared to 2022
- Over **100** regressive bills across **31** states – resulted in just 9 bills passing in 8 states, representing an **8.26%** success rate
- Almost **20%** more positive sex education bills introduced in the 2023 session than the previous year

Beyond sex education, SIECUS tracks other types of legislation that are seen as intersectional with sex education and have the potential to impact young people in and out of the classroom. These include bills addressing curriculum censorship, students rights, LGBTQIA+ inclusion, factual American history, and much more that would have a variety of implications on school climate and the future of our country. Once again, the opposition continued to chip away at the rights of Americans with **over 20 so-called “parental rights” bills enacted into law out of the 242 parental rights bills introduced. This is an almost 73% increase in parental rights bills introduced from 2022 to 2023.** Further, over **30% of these tracked bills were attacks on LGBTQIA+ young people’s rights**, reflective of the exponential increase in anti-LGBTQIA+ bills across the country in 2023 (Choi, 2024). These pieces of legislation are the result of a misinformation campaign to assert the narrow worldview of a small, regressive minority over all people and infringe on civil rights of young Americans while systematically eroding the public education system overall.

Similarly, legislative attacks on LGBTQIA+ youth are at an all-time high with yet another year of countless harmful policies enacted that will create hostile classroom and school environments for LGBTQIA+ students. SIECUS has tracked at least **46 newly enacted laws in 22 states that will make classrooms and schools unsafe and discriminatory spaces for LGBTQIA+ young people.** Even so, compared to last year, at least **10 states were able to preemptively pass protections for LGBTQIA+ students** into law, with California alone passing 4 laws.

Moreover, SIECUS tracked **over 160 progressive bills** that improve menstrual equity, mental health, and abuse prevention instruction and were some of the progressive legislation that were successful in 2023, with **18 bills enacted into law.** These efforts are incredibly important as it further codifies sexual health education in public education and advances education that will improve the overall health and well-being of young people. The passage of these bills shows promise that advocates of sex education have a strong foundation to continue the momentum and that progress cannot be stopped.

At the federal level, we saw a similar story: a Regressive Minority attempting to push their harmful agenda with bills such as “Parental Bill of Rights” (HR.5) and “Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act of 2023” (H.R 734). While we saw extremist bills filed at the federal level, we were pleased to work closely with our sex education allies and Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA-12) and Senator Mazie Hirono (D-HI), alongside several reproductive rights champions, to have the Real Education and Access for Healthy Youth Act reintroduced. Additionally, SIECUS has observed a **noticeable increase in digital censorship bills for youth at both the state and federal level**, such as the Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA). While seemingly protective of young people, these bills will create obstacles for young people trying to access sexual and reproductive health information online, especially when young people already experience restricted access in schools and other settings.



Emerging Trend Alert: Digital Censorship

The Regressive Minority is intent on censoring and erasing critical sexual and reproductive health information from schools, libraries, and – increasingly – online, in order to black out resources for young people. It will be critically important for sexual and reproductive freedom advocates to closely monitor and oppose devious misinformation tactics seeking to create false support for online censorship. The most prominent such bill, the Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA), showcases the way that misinformation tactics being used to attack inclusive programming in schools is now being repurposed to target online content. This bill appears to increase online safety for young people, but would, in fact, censor sexual and reproductive health content online. Such censorship would contribute to the sexual and reproductive health knowledge gap experienced by youth, especially in conservative pockets of the country that restrict sex education in schools. This will do more harm than good for young people and ultimately seeks to silence discussions on sexuality and sexual health. In 2024, it appears that an emerging state legislative trend is for similar copycat bills to be introduced.

2023 was also the year for several off-year elections at the Congressional, State, and local levels, including school board elections in which the Regressive Minority has been using for division tactics for the past several years. At the federal level, special elections to fill three congressional seats (VA-4, RI-1, UT-2) did not drastically change the makeup of Congress. Neither did gubernatorial elections in Kentucky, Louisiana, and Mississippi shift power significantly, although in Louisiana, the election of Jeff Landry, an anti-reproductive rights candidate, will likely increase an already contentious landscape for advocates trying to gain access to reproductive health care. In sharp contrast, Kentucky saw the re-election of a pro-reproductive freedom governor, Andy Beshear. Key battleground states like Virginia experienced a shift in power after the election of many pro-abortion rights candidates in the House of Delegates.

In addition, several key ballot measures were up for vote on November 7, 2023. It was welcome news when Ohio's *Issue 1*, a constitutional amendment to enshrine the right to abortion in the state, was overwhelmingly supported by 56% of Ohio voters. School board races were also at the forefront of the mid-term election with a well-funded opposition utilizing hateful misinformation tactics to campaign for open school board seats. Overwhelmingly, these efforts were and continue to be rejected by the majority of parents, educators, and community members. However, these tactics and efforts foreshadow the 2024 election season, which will include a Presidential election, the majority of Congress, and many important federal, state, and local elected offices that will set the tone for the advancement of sex education.

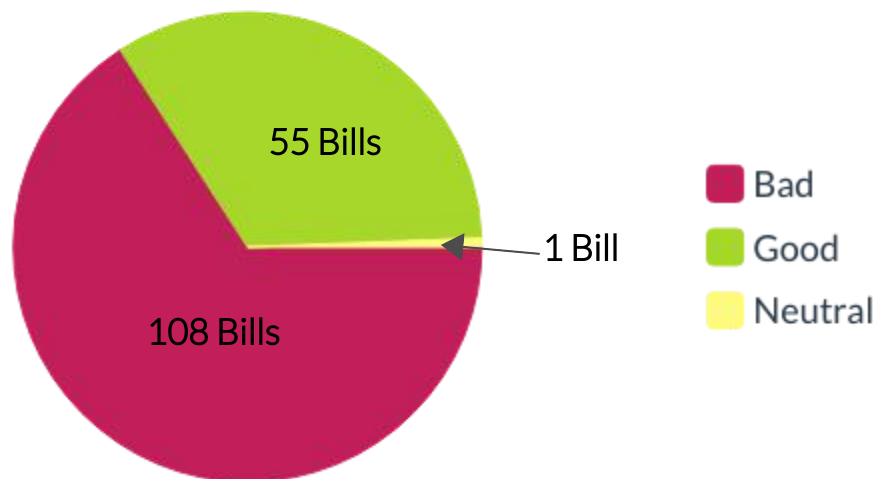
Given this dynamic and variable sociopolitical climate in 2023 and moving into 2024, advocates for inclusive and affirming education can expect ongoing challenges in promoting honest and comprehensive education in a safe classroom environment that truly meets the needs of all young people. The opposition to sex education and more will not be limited to state legislatures and will likely present itself at all levels of governments, in healthcare systems, and in communities across the country. SIECUS believes that all young people deserve quality sex education where they see themselves represented, and they deserve access to critical sexual and reproductive health services that together help them thrive and achieve overall well-being.

As 2024 legislative sessions begin to convene, the fight to protect sexual freedom for young people carries on.

Sex Education Policy in 2023

- SIECUS tracked a total of **1,016** bills in 2023
- Of these, **164** specifically impact sex education
- Of these, **9** were enacted into law. All of these will negatively impact sex education

Introduced Bills by Goal to Advance Vs. Restrict Sex Education





2023 Legislative Wrap-Up

2023 Legislative Wrap-Up

In August of 2023, SIECUS published the 2023 Sex Ed State Legislative Mid-Year Report in which we highlighted **81** bills that impact sex education. **At the midpoint** of the year, **9** had passed. These newly enacted laws will dramatically re-shape the current sex education policy in **8** states.

Since the publication of the mid-year report, **5 new bills pertaining to sex education were introduced**. At the end of 2023, **none of** these had made any progress. As of December 2023, no further movement was **observed on** legislation as there were only **7** active legislative sessions by the end of last year.

Overview of New Sex Education Laws

Here are some of the major **developments** in sex education law in 2023:



Arkansas enacted two laws that will impact the state of sex education. The first, Senate Bill 294, is an omnibus education law that prohibits sex education prior to fifth grade. This law will have disastrous implications as, according to the National Sex Education Standards, sex education in these grade levels provides a critical foundation for understanding reproductive anatomy; personal boundaries; how to access resources such as trusted adults, puberty and menstruation; and more. The second, **Senate Bill 284**, would require educators to instruct on “adoption awareness” and emphasize why adoption is preferable to other alternative pregnancy outcomes such as abortion, reinforcing the shame and stigma about abortion care.



Florida enacted House Bill 1069 which takes last year’s “Don’t Say Gay” law a step further and bans any classroom discussion of or instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity before eighth grade. It also prohibits school staff from using the correct pronouns of a student in accordance with their gender identity. This prevents Florida schools from being safe and inclusive spaces for LGBTQIA+ students, which will cause harmful consequences for their health and well-being. Additionally, it allows for policies that censor books in school libraries and requires all reproductive health education material to be department-approved. This means that reproductive health education material can be changed depending on the stance of the current Florida administration’s stance on sex education, due to positions within the Department of Education being appointed by the Governor.





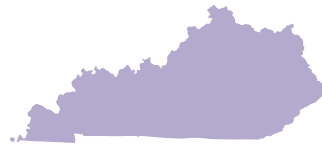
Idaho enacted **House Bill 228**, which amends the current definition of abstinence within the context of their sex education as "the absence of any sexual activity prior to marriage, which activity includes physical contact between individuals involving intimate or private areas of the body that can potentially: (a) Result in pregnancy; (b) Transmit sexually transmitted diseases and infections; or (c) Present emotional risks". Further, it re-defines sex education as only studying the anatomy and physiology of human reproduction. While seemingly small changes to language, the result of this is that sex education greatly limits the ability to teach the foundations of sexual and reproductive health. Additionally, it prioritizes abstinence-only instruction, which is known to be ineffective in promoting young people's sexual and reproductive well-being - including preventing unintended pregnancies - and also disparages non-heterosexual and non-marital relationships.



Indiana enacted **House Bill 1608** which contains a dangerous clause that pressures school staff to "out" transgender kids and prohibits age-appropriate sex education in grades kindergarten through third. According to the National Sex Education Standards, kids in these grades should be learning to name their own body parts, learn how to communicate their personal boundaries, discuss the harm of gender stereotypes, understand the diversity in family structures, and much more. When sex education in early childhood is prohibited, kids fail to develop the critical skills needed to have respect for themselves and their peers, which is a foundation for individual growth as well as being positive members of society.



Iowa enacted **Senate File 496**, which prohibits any education that relates to sexual orientation or gender identity in kindergarten to sixth grade. This includes sex education, which should be inclusive and affirming of all identities. It also struck out the requirement for instruction about both AIDS and HPV, two sexually transmitted infections that can lead to negative health outcomes for young people. Additionally, the law restricts access to "sexually explicit" books in libraries, creates unnecessary curriculum transparency procedures, and limits participation in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey developed by the CDC. The Survey seeks to study health outcomes based on health behaviors for young people, with resulting statistics used to build robust and tailored interventions that improve their health.



Kentucky enacted **Senate Bill 150**, which prohibits sex education in grades five and under, in addition to infringing on the privacy of students by reporting to their parents about any change in their "mental health." It also prohibits the Board of Education from approving any policies that would require schools to affirm a student's gender identity by using the correct pronouns. As mentioned above, elementary school sex education is critical to the development of children. In fifth grade, students learn about important topics such as puberty and menstruation, which is important for their understanding of developmental changes they are undergoing around this stage. Prohibiting this education leaves them unprepared for this stage of their lives.



Mississippi enacted **House Bill 1390**, which deletes the expiration date for a clause in the Mississippi Code that requires the school board to adopt a policy on either abstinence-only or abstinence-plus instruction. This essentially permanently institutes the clause into state law and prevents it from being up for discussion every few years. This is an effort to permanently codify abstinence-only instruction and to hinder any re-evaluation of the harm of abstinence-only instruction for young people in Mississippi.



North Dakota enacted **House Bill 1265**, which now requires school districts to include a video of an ultrasound and an animation showing human development from fertilization to birth as a part of their sex education. While at the surface level it comes across as a harmless addition into curricula, it in fact seeks to stigmatize abortion and other pregnancy outcomes as a part of a conservative push across the country to emphasize the preference for carrying a pregnancy to term in the face of increasing restrictions on abortion access post-Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization.

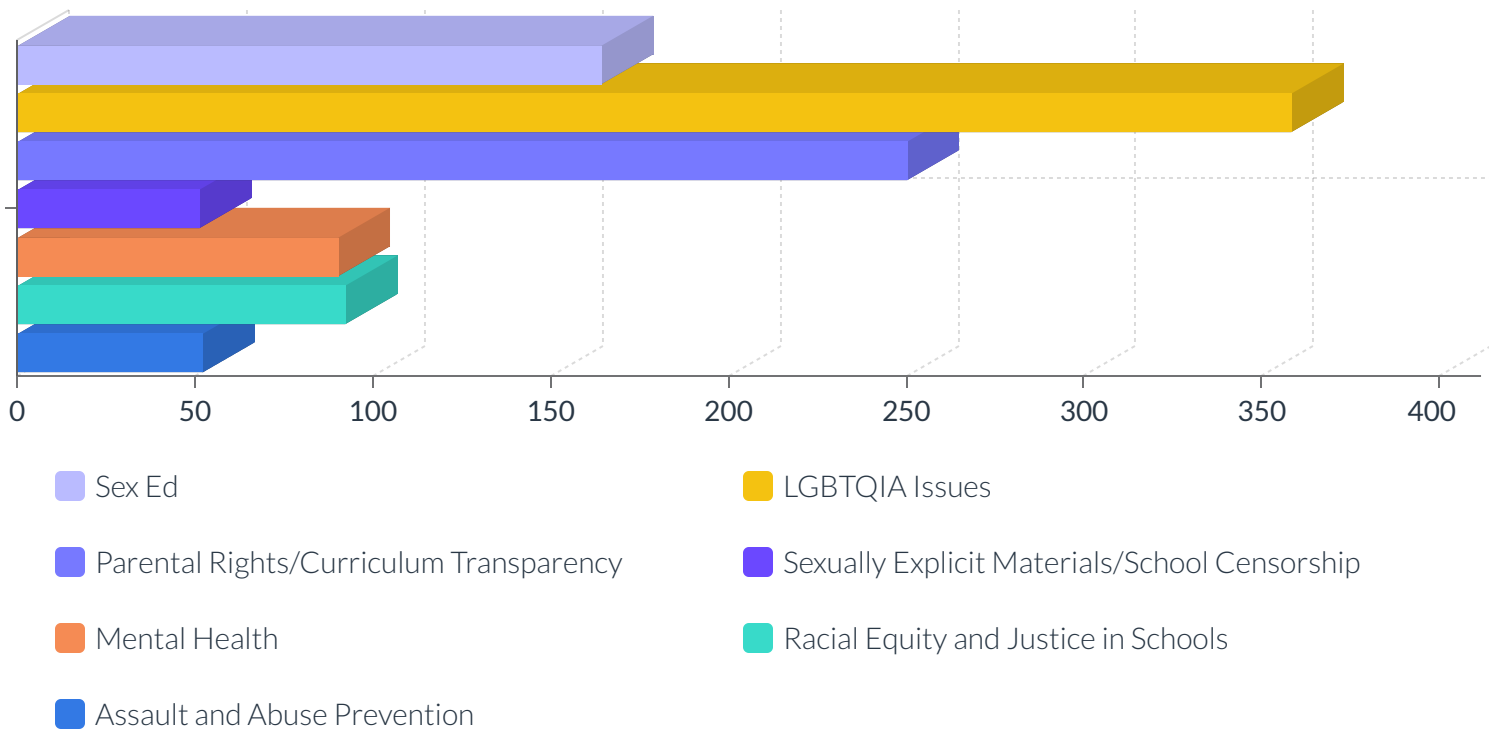
State Legislative Trends in 2023

In addition to tracking sex education policy, SIECUS tracks bills that impact young people both inside and outside the classroom. In this past session, at the state and federal legislatures, SIECUS tracked **over 1,000 bills**. As 2023 state and federal legislatures adjourned for the year, SIECUS observed many trends amongst legislation targeted towards both improving or restricting young people's access to inclusive and affirming education, school environments, and health services.

Some observable regressive legislation trends that carried over from 2022 include bills establishing so-called "parental rights," interscholastic sports bans for transgender students, and restricting discussion on sexual orientation and gender identity in the classroom. Conversely, some progressive trends include improving education on sexual abuse and assault prevention and mental health, and promoting menstrual equity in schools.

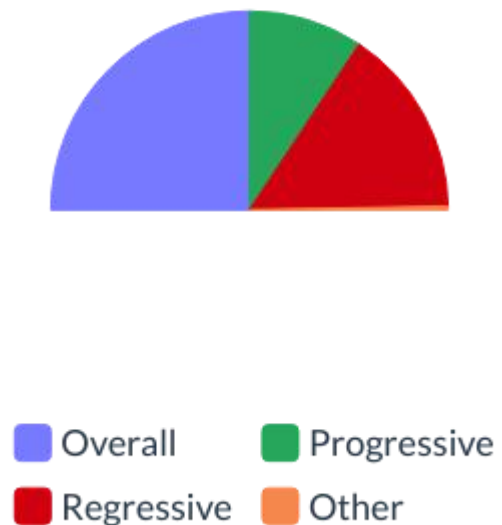


SIECUS Tracked 1,016 Bills in 2023 (by Topic)



In addition to the trends carrying over from 2022, several new themes emerged that set the tone for the 2023 legislative session. These themes include: **restricting sex education in elementary schools, pressuring school faculty and administration to forcibly “out” LGBTQIA+ students, requiring academic transparency policies that create administrative hurdles for school staff and reduce their capacity, creating unnecessarily complicated book rating systems to censor library materials**, and much more. While these emerging themes have varied impacts, they all share the same goal of impeding young people inside and outside the classroom from receiving transformative education and resources that would uplift and empower all students to lead healthier, better lives, regardless of who they are. Ultimately, these bills seek to destroy the very education system that provides a foundation for young people from all lived experiences to be able to move through society and prosper because those promoting such legislation feel threatened by such progress. The worst example of these attacks was Oklahoma [Senate Bill 973](#), which combined many of the aforementioned themes into one “monster” omnibus bill. For a comprehensive list of all introduced legislation tracked by SIECUS in 2023, see [Table 2 in Appendix](#).

SIECUS Tracked Bills (by Stance)



Deeper Dive Into 2023 Enacted Bills

In 2023, **112** of these interrelated bills were passed into law out of the **1,016** bills that SIECUS tracked. Examples of some of these newly enacted laws have been included below, divided by legislative trend (although many fall under more than one topic area).

Restrictive Trends

Regressive Bills Tracked (By Topic)

Total: 625 Bills



- Book Bans and Censorship
- Forced Outing and Misgendering
- Parental Rights
- Anti-Trans Youth
- Other

Book Bans and Censorship of School Materials

12 bills instituting book bans or allowing for censorship of instructional materials were enacted in **11** states (FL, IA, KY, LA, MS, ND, TN, TX, UT, VA, and WV). An example of one of these bills is Texas [House Bill 900](#) which is one of **14** bills introduced in Texas attempting to restrict access to specific books through different means. House Bill 900 requires school libraries to adopt specific standards that would prohibit any books that are rated as “sexually explicit,” “harmful,” or “vulgar.” The school district must then require parental consent prior to students accessing any “sexually relevant” books. To this end, the law also requires book publishers to assign such ratings prior to selling books to schools. Fortunately, a federal judge has [currently barred this law](#) from being enforced after Texas book vendors and bookstores filed lawsuits against the state (Shey, 2023).

These kinds of bills present a whole onslaught of issues, including the essential fact that they are censoring access to information and preventing instruction that is necessary for the development of critical thinking skills, based on facts and research. Beyond this, many of these book bans include terminology such as “sexually explicit,” “obscene,” and “harmful to minors,” which are terms that are often loosely defined and left to interpretation based on opinion rather than best practices according to experts in education and healthy youth development. Further, example after example of attempted censoring continually focuses on the erasure and villanization of LGBTQIA+ identities and/or anything that provides an alternative narrative about sexuality that differs from a conservative narrative.

Conversely, in light of increasing censorship of books depicting LGBTQIA+ relationships, California passed [Assembly Bill 1078](#) which states that school districts may only remove books from libraries with the approval of the state board. It also requires that all instructional materials that are approved include the contributions of all gender expressions and especially of LGBTQIA+ Americans. Further, these materials must be representative of the state of California's diversity. While this law is a strong example of proactive protections for education, it should be noted that these types of bills should not be needed in the U.S. as a result of federal law. SIECUS anticipates more of these types of legislation in the post-Dobbs decision era where a federal right was kicked back to the purview of the state, thereby opening the door for many civil rights to subsequently be decided upon at the state level.

Forced Outing and Misgendering of LGBTQIA+ Students

12 bills were enacted in **10** states (AR, ID, IN, FL, KY, MT, NC, ND, TN, and UT) that require or pressure school staff to "out" LGBTQIA+ students to their parents and/or prohibit schools from addressing students with the pronouns or names of their choice, institutionalizing a policy of misgendering young people. The mental and physical health impacts of these bills are disastrous, as forcibly outing LGBTQIA+ students and misgendering youth can create hostile home and school environments for them. In a survey conducted by the Human Rights Campaign, over 75% of queer youth surveyed reported that being forcibly outed was an incredibly stressful experience for them, with 48% of them reporting being made to feel bad about their identity by their family (HRC, 2018). Many transgender students who are in schools already abiding by such policies have [expressed distress](#) at being "[dead named](#)" and fear for their fellow transgender or non-binary peers who may face backlash at home, including the increased likelihood for family rejection and even abuse (Schoenbaum and Murphy, 2023). This compounds the negative mental health outcomes LGBTQIA+ youth already disproportionately face, such as [high levels of anxiety, depression, and suicidal ideation](#) (Trevor Project, 2023). Forced outings can also lead to families disowning queer youth who also experience a [higher rate](#) of homelessness (Trevor Project, 2022).

Some of these bills also notoriously tie together other clauses that exacerbate the vulnerabilities of LGBTQIA+ students. One example is Florida's [House Bill 1069](#), which, in addition to restricting sex education, bans discussions on sexual orientation and gender identity in the classroom, prohibits teachers from using students' pronouns in accordance with their gender identity, and requires the development of procedures for parents to restrict books that their kids can read. Of course, these books would likely be ones that include affirming and inclusive library books depicting and normalizing LGBTQIA+ identities and relationships.



However, one positive trend that emerged in 2023 was that, even though many states passed restrictive bills targeting LGBTQIA+ students, 11 states enacted pro-LGBTQIA+ youth bills such as laws banning conversion therapy on minors and requiring LGBTQIA+ inclusive curricula and inclusive facilities, bathrooms, and other accommodations. For more detail on these bills, please refer to our [2023 Mid-Year Report](#).

Parental Rights

22 bills regarding “parental rights” in the education system were enacted in **14** states (AL, AZ, AR, KY, LA, MT, NC, ND, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV). An example of these destabilizing pieces of legislation is North Carolina [Senate Bill 49](#), which was enacted in August and titled “Parents Bill of Rights.” This law contains many harmful provisions, including a forced outing clause and banning discussion of sexual orientation and gender identity in elementary schools. Further, the bill emphasizes many existing parental rights within the educational system, including the right to [“opt in” or “opt out”](#) their child from sex education. While this seems to be a minor inclusion, the impact of these bills is already being experienced by frustrated educators and administrators. Schools in North Carolina have been [prompted by the new law to review](#) their opt-in/opt-out policy for sex education classes. Those that have switched to opt-in systems severely restricts the number of students taking sex education (Calkins, 2023). As a result, it was reported that only one-third of students from grades five through nine have opted in to take sex education in a school district that switched to an “opt-in” policy. This is far lower enrollment compared to districts with “opt-out” policies.

“Parental rights” bills create unnecessary parental oversight that disrupts schools’ and teachers’ ability to effectively teach. The bills often tie together other harmful clauses in the guise of increasing parents’ rights over their child’s education, such as requiring their consent prior to any changes in pronouns, informing them of what books their child is checking out from the library, and allowing them to handpick what sex education lessons their child receives. The consequence of these new laws lead to burdensome processes for school administrators to work through. Additionally, they leave teachers [vulnerable to backlash](#) and lawsuits as they try to teach kids an evidence-based curriculum that they are highly trained to give (PEN America, 2023), contributing to the mass exodus of educators from public schools.

Unfortunately, due to their deceptive nature, it seems that these bills are still slipping past both progressive legislators’ and the general public’s grasp and are becoming law, leading to frustration for teachers, administrators, school district officials, students, and, inevitably, parents.

Infringing on Transgender Student Rights

47 bills infringing on transgender youth rights in both the education and healthcare system were enacted in over **20** states, with many states enacting multiple such bills. Arkansas is one of many states that is becoming an incredibly hostile environment for transgender youth. In 2023, Arkansas passed **4** laws that will be detrimental to the rights of young transgender Arkansans. Arkansas [Senate Bill 199](#) bans gender affirming care for minors, restricting their rights in the healthcare system. In schools, Arkansas [House Bill 1156](#) prohibits the use of bathrooms and sleeping accommodations on field trips in accordance with gender identity, which creates unsafe physical environments for transgender students, specifically. While many states in 2023 also enacted restrictions on transgender student athletes from playing on teams of their choice, Arkansas [already passed](#) such a law back in 2021 (The Associated Press, 2021).

Transgender students already face a myriad of health disparities compared to their cisgender peers. According to data from the Division of Adolescent School Health under the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), transgender youth are [more likely than](#) cisgender students to report being victims of violence and substance use, and they have a higher risk of suicide (CDC, 2017). Anti-transgender youth legislation only exacerbates these disparities, with [86% of transgender and non-binary youth](#) reporting that these bills have negatively impacted their mental health and sense of safety in schools and within the healthcare system (The Trevor Project, 2023).

Beyond this, there has been a continuous push by opposition groups to ban discussion of gender identity, which ultimately also impacts sex education curricula that is inclusive of and teaches about sexual orientation and gender to reflect the sexual health and information needs of ALL students, especially gender-diverse students.

Progressive Trends

Progressive Bills Tracked (By Topic)

Total: 379 Bills



- Improving Sex Education
- Protections for LGBTQIA+
- Assault and Abuse Prevention Instruction
- Improving Access to SRH Services
- Menstrual Equity
- Other

Assault and Abuse Prevention

6 bills related to improving assault and abuse prevention in schools were enacted in **five** states (CA, FL, MI, OR, WA). Two of these bills, California [Assembly Bill 1071](#) and Washington [Senate Bill 5355](#), require school districts to provide additional instruction on teen dating violence prevention or sex trafficking prevention, respectively. Both of these new laws impact students in grade seven through twelve. These new laws are critical as they improve existing sex education curricula to make it more robust and bring it further in alignment with the National Sex Education Standards, as well as relevant to current contemporary societal issues. Moreover, as stated in SIECUS's publication [If You Care About Sexual Assault Prevention, Then You Should Care About Sex Ed](#), quality sex education has been shown to prevent sexual assault by addressing sexual assault perpetration, teaching sexual refusal skills, addressing healthy relationships, and dismantling rape culture.



Improving Access to SRH Services for Young People (Abortion, Birth Control, and HIV/STI)

12 bills that would improve young people's access to sexual and reproductive health services were passed in **9** states (AR, CA, CO, NM, NY, NV, OR, VT). Services include abortion care, family planning and contraception, STI testing and treatment, and even gender-affirming care. An example of these new laws include Colorado's [Senate Bill 188](#), which broadly protects access to reproductive health care and gender-affirming care by protecting providers and out-of-state patients from facing legal consequences in other states due to assisting someone from out-of-state with access to abortion or other reproductive health care. While this is an overarching bill that protects all patients, regardless of age, it removes [judicial bypass and parental notification](#) obstacles for young people who experience such barriers to accessing abortion care within their own states (Guttmacher, 2023). Similarly California's [Senate Bill 345](#) repeals provisions that previously required certain judicial procedures to be followed if parents/guardians of an unemancipated minor refused to consent to them having an abortion, strengthening minors' access to abortion care.

These "shield laws" are also incredibly important in a [post-Dobbs America](#) where, after the fall of Roe v. Wade, "trigger" bans – or laws that immediately ban abortion if Roe is no longer applied – went into effect in **9** states (Center for Reproductive Rights, 2023). Since then, 25 state laws were enacted to restrict abortion access, as of June 2023, [according to Guttmacher Institute](#) (Guttmacher, 2023).

Menstrual Equity in Schools

5 bills were enacted in 5 states (CA, FL, MS, NJ, NM) that would improve accessibility to menstrual hygiene products in schools. For example, the New Jersey legislature enacted [Senate Bill 1221](#), which establishes a program within the Department of Education to reimburse school districts for providing menstrual hygiene products in school bathrooms free of charge. This shows a continuation of last year's trend of new menstrual equity laws that can alleviate the issue of "[period poverty](#)" – the inequitable access to menstrual hygiene products and understanding of menstruation – among young people (Wood, 2022).

Period poverty can impact the ability of some students to truly be present in the classroom and receive the education they deserve because of [stress and increased absences](#) resulting from lack of access to menstrual products. Additionally, it has a [detrimental effect on mental health](#) and disproportionately affects students from low-income families (Period Action, 2022). Menstrual equity initiatives seek to provide instruction and education on how to use these products and increase understanding of puberty and menstruation to improve the reproductive health of all young people. In fact, sex education addresses much of this instruction, but, in states where it is being banned in elementary schools, disparities in access to reproductive health knowledge may be exacerbated since people with vaginas can begin menstruating [as early as age 10 or fourth grade](#). Access to reproductive health products is not enough if young people lack the foundational knowledge needed to use it.



A black and white photograph of a protest. In the foreground, a person is holding a large sign that reads "#BLACKLIVESMATTER" and "#BLACKTRANSLIVESMATTER". They are wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt and a belt. In the background, other protesters are visible, some holding signs that say "NO JUSTICE PEACE NO REST FOR THE EVIL", "Stop Police Brutality", "BLACK LIVES MATTER", and "END WHITE SILENCE". A water bottle is visible in the bottom right corner.

2023-2024 Federal Legislative Wrap-Up

2023–2024 Federal Legislative Wrap-Up

At the Congressional level, SIECUS tracked and endorsed many bills that sought to protect the sexual and reproductive rights of young people nationally. The primary example is the re-filing of the [Real Education and Access for Healthy Youth Act of 2023](#) (H.R.3583/S.1697), a bill creating the first ever federal funding stream for comprehensive sex education programs, which is discussed in detail in the following section. SIECUS and coalition partners have worked tirelessly for years to advance this legislation and make sex education for all a reality. Other bills supported by SIECUS include the Equal Access to Abortion Coverage Act (H.R. 561/S. 1031), which would require the federal government to ensure that every person receiving federal government health insurance has coverage for abortion services and prohibits the government from hindering private health insurance companies' decision to cover abortion care. SIECUS also endorsed the Rise Up for LGBTQIA+ Youth in Schools Resolution (H.Res 265/S. Res 134), which calls for equal education opportunities and protections for LGBTQIA+ young people in K-12 schools.

Fiscal Year 2023: Federal Appropriations for Adolescent Sexual Health Programs

Funding for federal adolescent sexual health programs did increase for FY2023, which began in October 2022 and ended in September 2023. The CDC Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) received a funding increase of \$2 million, an increase for which SIECUS supported and advocated, in an encouraging step toward fully funding the expansion of the program. The Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program (TPPP) continued to be funded at previous levels. Unfortunately, discretionary funding for the harmful Sexual Risk Avoidance education (SRAE) program also remained consistent. The Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) is funded outside of the standard appropriations process, and its funding was slated to run out at the end of 2023.

DASH, TPPP, and PREP are critical, evidence-based programs dedicated to supporting the sexual and reproductive health of young people. DASH's *What Works in the Schools* model provides funding to 28 local education agencies across the country to implement school-based programs and practices designed to reduce HIV and other STIs among young people. These efforts support a holistic model of student health increasing positive health outcomes and school connectedness. DASH also works with state and local education and health agencies to implement the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which monitors priority health risk behaviors and is an invaluable source of data on the issues that youth are facing.

TPPP is a grant program that funds diverse organizations working to prevent teen pregnancy, with a focus on organizations that serve communities and populations with the greatest needs and facing significant disparities. TPPP investments also allow for the development of new and innovative approaches to prevent teen pregnancy, prevent STIs among adolescents, and promote positive youth development. PREP also focuses on marginalized youth, targeting young people who are unhoused, in foster care, live in rural areas or in geographic areas with high teen birth rates, or come from racial or ethnic minority groups. PREP also helps to support pregnant and parenting youth.

These programs have built a base of evidence that demonstrates that sex education that is medically accurate and complete, age and developmentally-appropriate, and LGBTQIA+ inclusive gets results, yet the federal government continues to invest in “sexual risk avoidance” instruction, more commonly known as abstinence-only-until-marriage programming. SRAE is rooted in shame, coercion, and stigma, denying young people the medically accurate and necessary information they need. Even though DASH, TPPP, and PREP are proven to lower rates of unintended teen pregnancy and STI transmission, as well as reduce experiences of violence and bullying, the federal government continues to focus on funding SRAE, which is proven to be ineffective and harmful to young people rather than focusing their efforts on the work of these evidence-based programs.

Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriation Status

The current debate over government funding for FY2024 is still ongoing, despite the October 1, 2023, deadline. In late January, Congress passed another continuing resolution to further extend the deadlines for the FY2024 appropriations bills. About half of the bills now have a funding deadline of March 1st and the remaining bills, including the FY2024 Labor, Health and Human Services (LHHS) funding bill, have a deadline of March 8th.

Unfortunately, the current House of Representatives LHHS bill would not only increase SRA funding by \$5 million, but it would also seek to defund TPPP. The House proposal also included a (now failed) amendment to entirely defund the Office of Population Affairs, which administers TPPP. Funding for DASH was preserved by the House, but that is a minor win considering that it may be the only evidence-based program for sexual education left standing after funding negotiations. The Senate LHHS bill preserved funding levels for DASH, TPPP and SRA.

If Congress is unable to come to an agreement in 2024, there is also the additional possibility that Speaker Johnson will seek to pass a full-year date-change Continuing Resolution. This would maintain funding levels at FY2023 levels but also trigger severe, across-the-board (“sequestration”) cuts due to the Fiscal Responsibility Act. These cuts would result in as much as a 9.4% cut to non-defense programs.

As Congress continues their deliberations, it’s critical that sex education advocates continue to raise their voices for DASH and TPPP and ensure that Congress understands that a full-year appropriations package that includes funding for programs critical to adolescent sexual and reproductive health is essential.

Comparing FY 23 and FY 24

Program	FY23 Final Amount	FY24 Estimated
PREP	Funded Outside of Appropriations Process	\$74M
DASH	\$38.1M	\$38.1M
TPPP	\$101M	TBD

For a detailed look at proposed numbers for Fiscal Year 2024 and a breakdown of FY 2023 funding by state, please refer to the [Federal Funding Overview 2023](#).

While DASH and TPPP are important for supporting adolescent health, they are not a complete solution to the lack of inclusive, high-quality sex education across the country. The Real Education and Access for Healthy Youth Act (REAHYA) would not only help to fill this gap, but it would also help incentivize states to move toward more inclusive sex education curricula, support the training of sex educators, and pair access to high-quality sex education with access to sexual and reproductive health services.

Real Education and Access for Healthy Youth Act (2023)

REAHYA was re-introduced in May by Senators Mazie Hirono and Cory Booker and Representatives Barbara Lee, Alma Adams and Pramila Jayapal. Included in the Tri-Caucus Health Equity and Accountability Act, REAHYA would create a federal funding stream not only for high-quality sex education, but also for access to sexual and reproductive health services for marginalized young people and for training and professional development for sex educators. REAHYA would also reprogram SRA funds toward inclusive, evidence-based sex education and health services. REAHYA currently has 39 co-sponsors in the House and 14 in the Senate.

In September 2023, SIECUS spearheaded a powerful day of collective advocacy called “Sex Ed on the Hill” around REAHYA, DASH, TPPP, and sex education more broadly. State advocates from across the country convened in Washington, D.C., to talk with their Members of Congress about the sex education landscape in their states and federally. Participants had encouraging conversations with their representatives and their staff, including with offices who have historically been opponents of sex education.

Given the political climate, it’s unlikely that REAHYA will pass this Congress. However, even if the bill in its current form doesn’t pass, it is a valuable rallying cry illuminating how the current sex education system is failing our young people. We’re hopeful that even without passage, advocacy around REAHYA will help educate and galvanize Congress and the public around the urgent need for sex education that meets the needs of young people.



Abortion
IS
Healthcare

2023 Elections Recap

LIL'
ACTIVIST
FAIRY

2023 Elections Recap

Off-year elections in November 2023 provided new insight into the trajectory of our political system and what we can anticipate for the presidential election year to come. Elections were held this year from the school board and local scale all the way to special Congressional appointments.

None of the special Congressional election outcomes led to a shift in power; however, there was still cause for celebration of some historic firsts. The [elections of Jennifer McClellan](#) (VA-4) and [Gabe Amo](#) (RI-1) were indeed historic as they are the first Black people to represent their states in Congress (Rankin, 2023; Fitzpatrick, 2023). Additionally, Representative Jennifer McClellan has been an advocate of reproductive rights and sex education, having [successfully introduced and passed](#) a bill in Virginia to incorporate consent in family life education curriculum (Tyree, 2018).



State Gubernatorial Elections

There were three gubernatorial elections held this year in Kentucky, Louisiana, and Mississippi, respectively. Additionally, these states held elections for other positions within the executive branch, such as attorney general, lieutenant governor, and secretary of state. In Louisiana, the [election of Governor-elect Jeff Landry](#) has shifted legislative power in the state, creating an oppositional partisan trifecta (Montellaro, 2023). Louisiana is, unfortunately, one of many states where a trigger ban went into effect after the fall of *Roe v. Wade*. Further, Louisiana does not explicitly require sex education to be taught, instead requiring some subjects to be taught within health education but largely under the idea that abstinence should be preferred and emphasized. Both the incumbent governor and governor-elect are anti-abortion, and Landry has supported [books bans in school libraries](#) and restrictions [on LGBTQIA+ people](#) in Louisiana in the past (Sentell, 2022; Canicosa, 2021). Given that these two subjects were the basis of much state legislation this year, it is likely that the Governor-elect may welcome more restrictive school book and curriculum legislation should it make it to his desk, threatening the education and well-being of young people, especially queer youth in Mississippi.

Unfortunately for Mississippi, the political landscape remains unchanged as Incumbent Governor Tate Reeves was re-elected. During his first term, Mississippi has passed two bills to limit the rights of transgender young people in Mississippi. The first bill, [Senate Bill 2536](#), restricts the participation of transgender girl athletes on interscholastic teams in accordance with their gender identity and was passed into law in 2021 (Cole, Battaglia, and Toropin, 2021). The second bill, [HB 1125](#), prohibits gender-affirming care for minors and was passed into law this year (Cole, 2023). It is [anticipated that Governor Reeves will continue](#) to use restrictions on transgender youth as part of his legislative agenda, after another record-breaking year of anti-trans legislative attacks (Harrison, 2023). Disappointingly, in Mississippi, Attorney General Lynn Fitch, who had led the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* case that overturned *Roe*, [won re-election](#) (Pittman, 2023).

In Kentucky, the [re-election of Governor Andy Beshear](#) was an overwhelming relief for sexual and reproductive freedom advocates and reaffirms the belief that Kentuckians are dedicated to the protection of their reproductive rights (Schreiner, 2023).

State Legislative Elections

Reproductive rights supporters also won at the state legislature level in key battleground states such as Virginia, where the [election of many pro-reproductive freedom candidates](#) shifted power in the House of Delegates (Rankin, 2023). One of these candidates is Danica Roem, who is the [first transgender State Senator](#) in Virginia (Sopelsa, 2023). This is critical in a state like Virginia, where the current Governor and many legislators [won the 2021 election](#) on the platform of “enshrining parental rights” and “protecting kids from sexualization” (McKend and Merica, 2021). For the past two years in the state, legislature has been contentious with debates on sex education, transgender student protections, and inclusive curriculum. This electoral power shift is a clear indication that the public is not supportive of candidates who campaign on hate-based strategies targeting vulnerable kids.

Legislative elections were also held in Louisiana, Mississippi, and New Jersey. Although the election results did not lead to a substantial change to the makeup of these legislatures, the outcomes actually continue to point to the electoral failure of hateful candidates attempting to use the “parental rights” political playbook to flip seats. For example, sex education advocates in New Jersey feared the takeover of the state legislature by anti-sex education legislators who were attempting to [ride the tailwind of the “culture wars” that](#) erupted as New Jersey schools began to implement newly revised Comprehensive Health and Physical Education learning standards that would make sex education more inclusive (Friedman, 2023). Thankfully, these campaigns were largely unsuccessful as voters rejected many of these candidates. In even more good news, Mississippians celebrated a historic first with the [election of State Representative Fabian Nelson](#) as the first out LGBTQIA+ lawmaker in Mississippi, representing the 66th District (LGBTQ+ Victory Fund, 2023).

Local Election Results

In the 2023 mayoral elections for various battleground cities, allies and movement partners celebrated the election of many refreshing new officials, including former Chicago Public Schools teacher Brandon Johnson, who [won the Chicago mayoral election](#) with the support of young voters, especially within communities of color (Oladipo, 2023). Mayor Brandon Johnson has also stated his [unwavering support for abortion and other reproductive rights](#), making this a win for reproductive rights organizers in Chicago (Schulte, 2023). In Philadelphia, Cherelle Parker, who ran as a [proponent for LGBTQIA+ rights](#), became the [first-ever female mayor](#) of the city (Pedigo, 2023; Rodriguez, 2023).



In recent years, school board elections have become the new frontlines of the culture wars as a new crop of hate groups opposed to sex education and inclusive and affirming public schools have attempted to translate conservative outrage into election results. At the forefront of this effort, hate-group Moms for Liberty endorsed many candidates across thousands of school board elections this year. Despite a well-funded operation, their extreme platform of promoting “parental rights” while attempting to censor sex education and anything LGBTQIA+ inclusive in schools [failed on multiple ballots](#), especially in key states such as Pennsylvania and Virginia (Strauss, 2023).

For example, in Loudon County, VA, which has faced a [slew of scandals involving sexual assault](#) allegations in recent years and has been a battleground for conservative backlash, three of the four candidates endorsed by Moms for Liberty [were defeated](#) (Gustin, 2023; Collins and Bischoff, 2023). Similarly, in Iowa, of 13 candidates endorsed by Moms for Liberty, only one was successful. These defeats continue to be welcomed by proponents for sex education and continue to amplify the voice of the majority of Americans who reject the Regressive Minority’s hateful messaging that is fixated on destabilizing the U.S. education system.

In addition to the election of legislators and lawmakers across the country, several ballot measures were up for vote on November 7. One such ballot measure was [Ohio’s proposed constitutional amendment’s Issue 1](#), which enshrines the right to abortion in the state constitution (The New York Times, 2023). Fortunately, this ballot measure was successfully approved by a majority of Ohio voters, continuing the landslide of wins for reproductive rights advocates. Voters in Ohio now join [California, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Montana, and Vermont](#) who have either voted to secure access to abortion care or rejected ballot measures seeking to restrict abortion access (Jaramillo, 2023; Long, 2022).

Overall, advocates for sex education and reproductive justice were able to celebrate key victories and feel reaffirmed by the rejection of efforts by conservative lawmakers who continued to legislate against the wishes of their constituents and, instead, worked toward their own self-interests. This also emphasizes the need for advocates and state-based organizations to continue to participate in civic engagement awareness campaigns and electoral advocacy efforts to ensure their needs are being addressed by those elected to represent them.



A woman with long dark hair, wearing a black and white striped t-shirt and a necklace with a blue stone, is laughing heartily. She has a nose ring and is looking down with her eyes closed. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with a large palm tree and some buildings.

Looking Ahead to 2024

Looking Ahead to 2024

Sexual freedom activists will have many opportunities to advance sex education policy whilst defending against harmful encroachment on our sexual and reproductive rights at the local, state, and national levels. These opportunities include ensuring sex education is a focal point during upcoming elections, advocating for the passage of REAHYA and increasing funding for TPPP and DASH, introducing progressive sex education state legislation, and protecting sex education in our school districts.

2024 Election Watch

The outcome of the 2023 elections foreshadow how the 2024 elections are likely to play out. Moreover, 2024 will also be a presidential election year where the Biden Administration is likely to face a stiff re-election campaign as challengers and voters continue to grapple with our bitterly divided and combative political landscape. The next administration will not only influence the political climate for the next four years but will also dictate whether democracy as we know it will prevail or whether the civil rights of Americans will be further eroded through the election of a Regressive Minority presidential candidate.

In 2024, there will be 435 House seats, 33 Senate seats, 11 gubernatorial seats, and 86 state legislative chambers up for election. This includes the offices of many champions of REAHYA and reproductive equity. Additionally, countless cities across the country will be holding mayoral and other municipal elections including those at the school board level – the new frontlines of the ongoing battle concerning the public education system. As primaries continue, candidates for this upcoming year's election are prepared to address many issues on the ballot that have been top of mind for American voters. Among some of the [key issues to influence the upcoming election season](#) are education (including the "parental rights" movement and sex education), abortion, and LGBTQIA+ rights (Vakil, 2023).

Parental Rights Fight

The fight over the public education system is anticipated to continue to be a leading political strategy for socially conservative Regressive Minority candidates during the 2024 elections. SIECUS anticipates that sex education will be one of the many divisive topics that socially conservative politicians will seek to use in an effort to fear-monger and misinform voters, as evidenced by [previous elections at the state](#) level (Tully, 2022). It's important to note that while a loud minority of far-right politicians, conservative think tanks, and extremist organizations oppose sex education and are embracing misinformation and disinformation tactics to confuse voters, the [majority of Americans are supportive of sex education](#) and will vote to defend reproductive rights, in sharp contrast with elected officials pushing their decisive and hateful agendas over the will of their constituents.

As such, there is a real and important opportunity for sex education advocates to assertively and proactively educate voters to make them aware of the benefits of inclusive education ahead of the election season, in an effort to inoculate voters ahead of the expected backlash and misinformation campaigns against sex education. Similarly, it will be critical to pay attention to where school boards and other candidates stand in regards to sex education, as this will inevitably impact what happens with public school education policy. Further, where candidates and voters stand on similar subjects, such as abortion access and LGBTQIA+ rights, is inextricably tied to the fight for sex education and will inform advocates on the future political landscape for progressive sexual and reproductive health policy making.

Federal Landscape for Sex Education in 2024

In the midst of a tense political climate, Congress is still working to finalize FY2024 appropriations for federal programs. As of November 2023, President Biden had signed a continuing resolution to fund programs through early January and February 2024 as appropriations for 2024 were settled. Since efforts by conservative members of Congress to eliminate vital HIV/AIDS funding are still being debated, advocates should remain vigilant to any proposals that decrease funding to key adolescent health programs such as DASH, TPPP, and PREP. Advocates and coalition partners should continue to petition Congress to increase funding for these programs - or, at the very least, retain current funding over being entirely defunded, which Congressional leadership seems poised to do with their millions of dollars of proposed cuts to the Office of Health and Human Affairs budget.

More importantly, advocates must continue to support and amplify the need for REAHYA as a solution towards quality federal funding streams solely designed for sex education and access to sexual and reproductive health services for all young people, as well as for the elimination of abstinence-only instruction funding. Additionally, many REAHYA champions will be on the ballots for re-election in 2024, and voters will need to ensure they continue to express support of sexual and reproductive rights. Beyond re-election of REAHYA sponsors and cosponsors, it will be even more important for advocates to engage in efforts to educate Congress members and candidates about the fight for inclusive and affirming education, including sex education, in the face of endless attacks on our public education system.

Emerging Trend: KOSA and Online Censorship

Further, advocates must make themselves aware of other federal legislation that has the potential to impact access to sexual and reproductive health knowledge for young people, which is being replicated in states across the country. The most prominent such bill, the Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA), showcases the way that misinformation tactics being used to attack inclusive programming in schools is now being repurposed to target online content. This bill appears to increase online safety for young people, but would, in fact, censor sexual and reproductive health content online, contributing to the sexual and reproductive health knowledge gap experienced by youth - especially in conservative pockets of the country that restrict sex education in schools.

It will be critically important for sexual and reproductive freedom advocates to closely monitor and oppose such devious efforts, as it is clear that the Regressive Minority is intent on censoring and erasing critical sexual and reproductive health information from schools, libraries, and, increasingly, online, in order to black-out critical information for youth. SIECUS and its allies [recently released a statement expressing opposition](#) to KOSA due to the risk of digital censorship of relevant sexual health information, especially for vulnerable adolescent populations such as LGBTQIA+ youth. This bill represents one of the many attempts by the Regressive Minority to mislead parents into supporting blanket restrictions on social media which may, in fact, do more harm than good for young people and may ultimately support the aims of the opposition in silencing discussions on sexuality and sexual health. Moreover, an emerging state legislative trend is for similar copycat bills to be pre-filed for the upcoming state legislative season.

State-Based Opportunities

At the state level, there will be plenty of opportunities to advance sex education policy in legislative chambers, regulatory agencies, and even through municipal jurisdiction. While advocates and progressive lawmakers can expect to continue to have to fend off additional restrictive legislation, there may be growing room to promote positive sex education policy, especially with increasing public awareness and backlash against censorship and other political extremism (see the discussion below previewing anticipated state legislation and guidance on strategizing state policy as it relates to sex education in 2024).

Many state-based nonprofits and advocacy organizations that have faced roadblocks in passing progressive sex education legislation are starting to shift their focus in 2024 toward state regulatory agencies such as state departments of education, which rely on experts in the fields of education and child development, as well as on research and best practices. Such state departments of education are less susceptible to the whims of an elected official pushing a regressive agenda. Most prominently, in September 2023 the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) approved [updated curriculum guidance for Comprehensive Health and Physical Education](#) that would advance learning standards on the sex education topics currently being taught to be more LGBTQIA+ inclusive, medically accurate, and age appropriate.

Some states such as Rhode Island and West Virginia require that public schools, by law, must follow department curriculum guidelines and learning standards that can sometimes include sex education concepts under the umbrella of health and physical education. This type of statute ensures that experts are relied on when it comes to informing the education that young people receive in these states. States such as Maryland, Massachusetts, and New Jersey have approved curriculum frameworks that make them more evidence-formed, developmentally appropriate, inclusive, and comprehensive. While these states do not have laws on the books mandating that these standards have to be followed, the implementation of these standards is critical in supporting local schools' instructional decision-making regarding curricula selection.

Similarly, at the local level, there are opportunities to improve sex education curricula and policies in individual school districts. For example, the campaign led by SEPAC partner, New Voices for Reproductive Justice, last year successfully pushed the Pittsburgh Public Schools to [update their sexual education policy](#) to be more inclusive and contain further parameters for what needs to be taught in sex education (Schneider, 2022). This year, Washoe County School District in Nevada [voted to improve their sex](#) education curricula to make it more comprehensive and encompassing topics such as puberty and anatomy in fourth and fifth grade (Todd, 2023). This reflects the positive outcome after the local school board withstood a conservative backlash against sex education and LGBTQIA+ inclusive school policies.

These successes demonstrate how advocates can be successful in specific districts and that sex education advocates can and should continue to mobilize within their communities and work to support school administration and teachers by helping pass school district policies that ensure safe and supportive learning environments for all students. In 2024, advocates in states struggling to advance sex education legislation are encouraged to identify whether a similar strategy may be fruitful for them. Advocates can utilize [SIECUS' State Profiles](#) to review current sex education curricula guidance and compare it to the [National Sex Education Standards](#) to assess opportunities for improvement.

State Legislation to Look out for in 2024

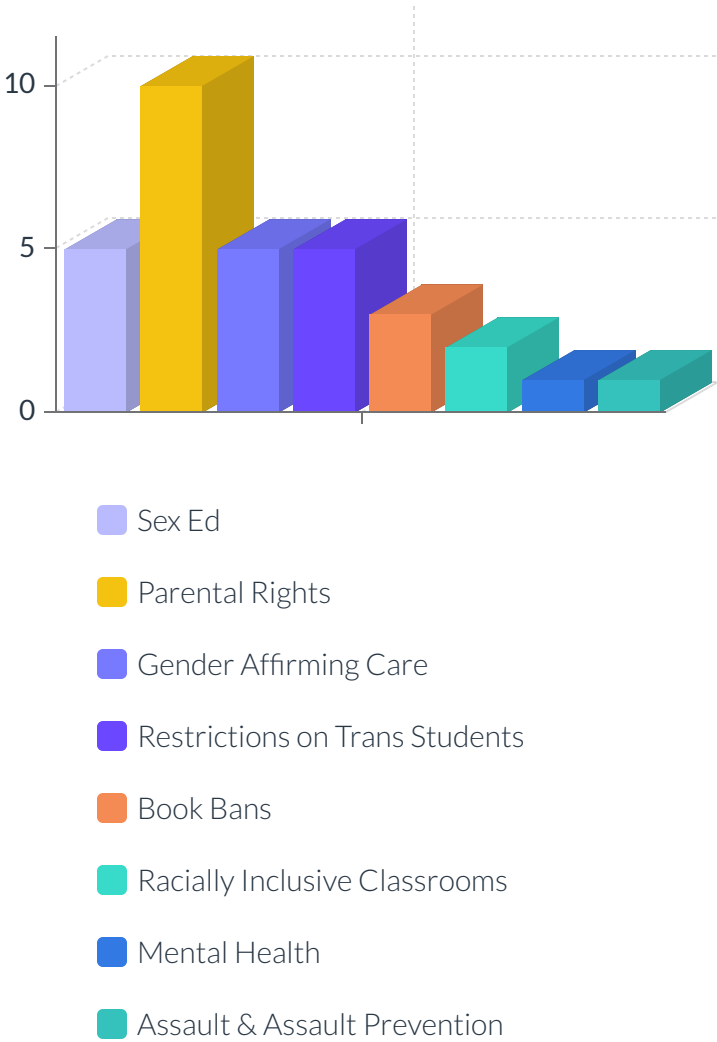
46 state legislatures hold regular sessions annually. The other four states—Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, and Texas—meet in odd-numbered years and therefore will not convene in 2024. Nine state legislatures have full-time legislators, meaning that the legislature meets throughout the year. All other legislators are considered part-time as they only meet for a portion of the year. Many state legislative sessions began in January 2024. For detailed information about the start and end dates of state legislatures, see [Table 1 in Appendix](#).

In preparation for the upcoming year's legislative cycle, state legislatures have begun to both carry over previously filed bills from the 2023 session and/or pre-file legislation. One carryover bill to watch is House Bill 822 introduced in Georgia during the 2023 legislative session that would improve sex education by requiring it to be both age appropriate and medically accurate, as well as include education about consent. Because the Georgia legislature allows for bills to carry over from an odd-year to an even-year session, advocates anticipate this transformative bipartisan bill will be taken up in 2024 and will hopefully be adopted into law.

Pre-Filed Bill Trends to Watch

In addition to carryover bills, many state legislatures have begun to pre-file legislation prior to formal introduction in 2024. These prefiles give advocates insight into what is on lawmakers' agendas for the next year. This early preview can help inform strategy. Currently, SIECUS is tracking **43** bills that have already been pre-filed for the upcoming year that could impact young people's sexual freedom.

Prefiled Legislation Based on Topic Area



*Many of these bills can be classified under more than one category *

*Not comprehensive of all bills tracked thus far

Among these profiles, the Regressive Minority continues to experiment with modified bills that seek to advance their hateful agenda. In essence, the Regressive Minority's strategy is introducing multiple versions of the same legislation, each version with slight modifications. They then monitor these bills to better understand which deceitful and weaponized language takes hold and gains the most traction. Every year, they build on the knowledge they have gained and use it to adjust their legislative agenda. Unfortunately, this strategy is extremely effective. Already in the 2024 session, we are seeing bills that mislabel and prohibit early childhood sex education; emphasize supposed "parental rights"; and institute and expand book bans, gender affirming care restrictions, and much more. In Missouri alone, seven such restrictive bills have already been pre-filed. For more information on Missouri's upcoming legislative session, see the call-out box below.



Michigan's **House Bill 5337**, pre-filed by Rep. Greg Markkanen (MI-110), would prohibit instruction in HIV/AIDS prior to fourth grade. Similarly, any reproductive health education must be taught after fourth grade. This would limit important, foundational sex education topics from being taught when developmentally appropriate to do so, as outlined in the [National Sex Education Standards](#), which was developed by SIECUS and partners with the input of educational and medical experts.



Florida's **Senate Bill 74**, pre-filed by Senator Mayfield (FL-19), seeks to reinforce the "gender binary" and prohibit any discussion on the expansiveness of gender and sexuality within health education curricula.



Maine's Legislative Directive 254 has been marked for carry-over from the past year's legislative session to this year's. Introduced by Senator Mattie Daughtry (ME-23), this concept draft seeks to update current sex education and consent curriculum. As of yet, it is unclear how this legislation will accomplish this since bill text is under development, but we are hopeful it calls for an alignment with the National Sex Education Standards.



State Snapshot: A Sneak Peek of Missouri's Upcoming Legislative Session



In 2023, SIECUS tracked **44** bills in **Missouri**. Unfortunately, [Missouri has led the race](#) by states introducing problematic and misguided bills (Dereuck, 2023). While most have fallen short of passage, Missouri bills have provided boilerplate language to speed the way for other states to introduce and attempt to pass their own harmful copycat legislation.

As of December 2023, Missouri lawmakers have already prefiled **7** bills out of which **more than 50% are restrictive** for young people. **5 are parental rights bills** that seek to restrict students' learning and sense of safety in schools.

Additionally, **two prefiled bills seek to restrict sex education** in Missouri. If passed, these bills will increase the existing disparity faced by young people in Missouri in accessing sexual health information given that sex education is not required in the state. This is further compounded by the fact that many citizens in Missouri [still suffer from stigma](#) associated with misconceptions around sexually transmitted infections, such as HIV (Hadjimohammadi, 2023).

Advocates in Missouri are encouraged to be on the lookout for movement on these harmful bills and engage with local advocacy groups to mobilize against this dangerous trend.

New Bill Trends to Watch for

Beyond these efforts to continue the regressive minority's existing agenda, sex education advocates can anticipate additional nuanced and calculated attacks on the rights of young people through several new types of bills.

Pre-Filed Bill Trends to Watch

[A quickly emerging trend](#) are bills restricting social media use by minors (Goth, 2023). Many of these bills mimic the KOSA bill language. These bills vary from prohibiting accessibility to social media platforms at school or in general for the school-aged children to enlisting restrictions on social media platforms to censor information deemed "inappropriate." The "inappropriate" content in question could range from age-appropriate information on sexual health to censoring content on sexual orientation and gender identity. These bills use the same misinformation tactic as "parental rights" bills, which on the surface seem to protect the rights of parents in the education system but really seek to restrict the rights of students and educators in the classroom.

It appears that states such as Florida will seek to jump on this bandwagon. State legislators have already prefiled [House Bill 207](#), which seeks to require social media platforms to disclose policies for minor protection and prohibits schools from using or having social media platform accounts or requiring their students to register, enroll, or participate in social media platforms for educational purposes.



Access to Contraception

In a post-Dobbs era and with the Supreme Court considering [yet another case that could further restrict abortion](#) access, many advocates fear the repeal of similar reproductive rights precedents such as the right to contraception. The right to contraception was recognized through the famous Supreme Court case [Griswold v. Connecticut](#). However, in the Dobbs decision, conservative Justices on the Supreme Court include the right to contraception as also being at risk of being revoked, which has [prompted state legislatures to consider legislation](#) to protect this right proactively. This past year, SIECUS tracked nine bills that would establish further protections or increase accessibility to contraception and/or family planning services for young people. In the coming year, SIECUS anticipates further legislation on this issue, including the potential for regressive legislative attacks.

Ultimately, sexual and reproductive health advocacy organizations and activists can anticipate another year in which a heavily funded group of minority politicians and regressive minority activists, insistent on disregarding the will of their constituents, will continue to aggressively push for legislation seeking to roll back sexual and reproductive rights. Activists will need to continue focusing on nuanced strategies and united efforts to defeat these regressive bills and fight to pass policies that protect and improve the state of sex education and reproductive freedom for the young people across the United States.



Advancing Sex Education Policy in 2024

At SIECUS, we believe that when young people receive sex education according to the [National Sex Education Standards](#) (NSES), young people learn about diversity and inclusion, they learn about safety, and they learn how to think critically about themselves and their own choices but also about the world. This independent thinking is, and always will be, the worst enemy of the Regressive Minority.

Since 2016, the Regressive Minority has accelerated its efforts to chip away at Constitutional rights and the foundation of American democracy. This insidious effort, characterized by national crises such as the attack on the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2019, and the Supreme Court decision to undermine the right to abortion in the Dobbs decision, has kept Americans distracted by human, civil, and social rights fights on multiple fronts. The COVID pandemic, the increasingly dire climate change crisis, and resulting outbreak of multiple geo-political conflicts and wars have exacerbated the trauma of these domestic conflicts.

Advocates fighting for human rights are overwhelmed and exhausted, and yet, they have persevered and pushed to defend against these efforts because the general public, especially young people, have time and again shown that this is not how they envision their future. As evidenced by election results, local organizing efforts, and numerous examples of parents showing up at their school board's meetings to prevent censorship efforts, the efforts of the Regressive Minority are just that; representative of a loud but ultimately small and hateful minority. To this end, advocates have not shied away from attempting to build coalitions with other movement partners and introduce legislation to advance sex education. Thus, it is imperative for those committed to advancing sexual freedom for all to engage with SIECUS and participate in our mobilization efforts so that we can secure a sex-positive future for all young people.

Sex Education Policy Action Council

SIECUS' [Sex Education Policy Action Council](#) (SEPAC) is a membership-based council made up of approximately 90 national and state-based organizations, advocates, educators, researchers, and coalitions across 37 states, all striving to advance inclusive sex education policies. SIECUS provides [technical assistance](#) to SEPAC members, and members help shape a common narrative to advance sex education policy, engage with policymakers seeking to advance and pass sex education legislation, educate federal congressional members on the need for inclusive and medically accurate sex education, and create a model for expanding sex education policy across the country.

At the center of SEPAC is the opportunity for state-based organizations to connect and learn from other state organizations and experts during monthly meetings. Additionally, the SIECUS staff aims to support and uplift the incredible work of our SEPAC partners by providing microgrants, technical assistance, and strategy consultation to expand our partners' capacity and reach. If you would like to learn more about how you can take action against regressive sex education policies by becoming a member of SEPAC, please contact us at sepac@siecus.org!



Sex Education Policy Playbook

To support advocates' efforts, SIECUS has created a Policy Playbook. The intent of this playbook is to aid the development of policies that protect, reinstate, and advance sex education. The Policy Playbook was created with the support and expertise of many organizations, including American Atheists; Girls, Inc.; Trevor Project; Erin's Law; Pride Liberation Project; Planned Parenthood Federation of America; and Child Trends. We are proud to work in concert with our allies in this work. The Policy Playbook outlines policy strategy in the areas of preventing sexual violence, providing factual education, supporting mental health priorities for young people, and promoting access to health care.

Importantly, the Policy Playbook can be used by activists to advocate for the passage of bills that fulfill the learning objectives of the National Sex Education Standards, as well as the gold standard legislation for sex education: the Healthy Youth Act. This model legislation encourages states to enact laws that mandate that sex education aligns with the [National Sex Education Standards](#) framework and, in some states, even mandates instruction. However, it can also be used by advocates in conservative or hostile states looking for defensive or bipartisan strategies that can both navigate their unique political environment and be responsive to the needs of the young people in their states.

Smaller strategic advancements will be even more critical in 2024 and beyond as we have seen the Regressive Minority's goals [as published by the Heritage Foundation](#), which are frightening and propose a fascist, Christian Nationalist take-over of the United States.

A group of people, mostly Black, are participating in a protest. They are wearing face masks and holding a large white banner. In the background, there are other signs, including one that says "BLACK LIVES MATTER!!!" and another that says "SILENCE". The banner they are holding has the text "WE WHO BELIEVE IN FREEDOM CANNOT REST" and "-ELLA BAKER" at the bottom.

2024 State Advocacy Tools

2024 State Advocacy Tools

As states resume their legislative sessions, advocates may face unique challenges in advancing legislation surrounding sex education, access to health services, and other intersecting issues. Similarly, there will be many opportunities to advance our mission of sex education for social change.

The following tools may be utilized to advance sex education and other intersecting policies in your community and state.

- [Defending Access to Inclusive and Affirming Education](#) is SIECUS's policy brief explaining the rise of the Regressive Minority and their opposition to sex education and factual instruction on race, class, and gender, which is represented in the legislation that the movement propagates. For a more comprehensive overview of the Regressive Minority players and the strategies they deploy, check out [Exposing Hate: The Truth about Attacks on Our Kids, Schools, and Diversity](#).
- [Community Action Toolkit](#) provides advocates with a guide on how to build support for advanced sex education in their communities, help implement policies, and promote effective and evidence-based sex education programs that affirm young people's right to education that empowers them to make healthy choices for oneself. This toolkit can be used by [parents](#), [teachers](#), [students](#), [health professionals](#), community or [faith leaders](#), and anyone who is pushing for sex education reform.
- The [Healthy Youth Act](#) is a model sex education legislation based on the adoption of the National Sex Education Standards that was developed by SIECUS and its partners at Advocates for Youth, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), and Planned Parenthood Federation of America. This model policy assists state legislators to draft bills that establish or amend sex education requirements for youth in their states. For more information regarding the model Healthy Youth Act legislation, please contact Alison Macklin, Policy and Advocacy Director, at amacklin@siecus.org.
- [National Standards for Sex Education](#), most recently updated in 2020, were developed by the Future of Sex Education (FoSE) initiative - composed of Advocates for Youth, Answer, and SIECUS: Sex Education for Social Change. This resource can help guide advocates considering sex education curricula to implement in their local schools and community centers. The goal of this publication is to provide clear, consistent, and straight-forward guidance on the essential, minimum, core content, and skills needed for sex education to be effective for K-12 students. More specifically, the NSES addresses the inconsistent implementation of sex education across the country. This resource serves as a means of helping educators improve existing sex education curricula.
- [Professional Learning Standards for Sex Education \(PLSSE\)](#) is a toolkit that provides guidance to school administrators and classroom educators about the content, skills, and professional disposition needed to implement sex education effectively. The PLSSE can help educators stay up-to-date on content and teaching methods, as both information related to sex and research on best practices are frequently changing.

- [Using Outside Speakers to Provide Sex Education](#) is a tool for school administrators and educators to screen external instructors to protect against the accidental use of abstinence-only instructors hiding behind a “sexual risk avoidance” facade.
- [So You Want to Speak Up for Sex Education Guide](#), created by EducateUs, provides a manual for parents and caregivers on how to show their support for comprehensive sex education at school board meetings, public hearings, and on other platforms.
- [Messages that Move Action for Sex Education](#), also created by EducateUs, is designed to provide research-informed messaging strategies that are effective at mobilizing people into sex education advocacy.
- For additional resources to inform sex education advocacy efforts, such as our [If/Then Series](#), [Federal Funding Overviews](#), and more, visit our website www.siecus.org.



A photograph of a graduate in a blue gown, seen from behind, throwing a blue graduation cap into the air. The graduate is standing in a long, arched hallway with stone walls and lanterns. The cap is suspended in the air above the graduate's head. The word "Conclusion" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Conclusion

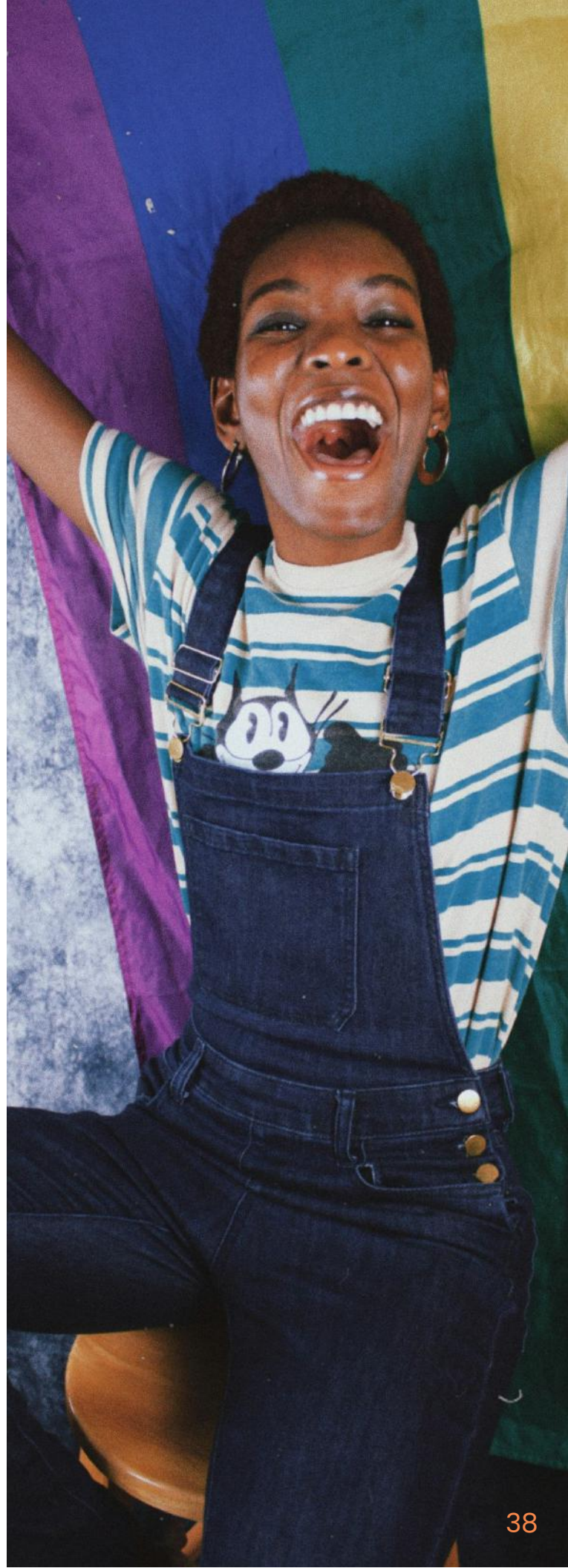
Conclusion

Although 2023 was another difficult year of disappointing legislative wins by the Regressive Minority, including the passage of eight new restrictive sex education laws, sex education advocates persevered and introduced progressive legislation to expand access to sexual health information and services across the country. Beyond state legislation, ongoing federal fiscal appropriations proceedings may be able to fortify existing adolescent sexual health programs that provide much-needed sexual health information. The continued push for REAHYA also seeks to address this gap in federal funding for evidence-based and truly all-encompassing sex education programs that meet the needs of all adolescents, especially racialized young people. Additionally, 2024's election of pro-reproductive rights advocates and rejection of extremist candidates provides insight for the upcoming presidential year where movement partners will need to mobilize to ensure the advancement of sex education is a priority area within electoral campaign platforms.

Even though this year's losses will have serious consequences for young people in several states, advocates are dedicated to not only defending youth reproductive rights through further legislation, litigation, and organizing, but also by planning for progressive efforts in the upcoming year to rectify these harms. SIECUS and allies have repeatedly seen that where some lawmakers are infringing upon the sexual and reproductive freedom of citizens, there is a growing resistance of young people, parents, educators, medical professionals, scientists, activists, and progressive policy makers who are vehemently opposed to the increasingly hate-based political agenda.

Thus, as a new year begins, the fight for a future where all young people have access to inclusive, affirming, and transformative sex education - and where they have the greatest potential to experience sexual reproductive well-being - will be constant and enduring.

For additional assistance with advancing sex education in your community during the 2024 legislative session, please contact the team at SIECUS by emailing us at info@siecus.org.



A photograph of a library with tall white bookshelves filled with books. A person's hand, wearing a light-colored ribbed sweater, is reaching out to touch the spines of books on one of the shelves. The word "References" is overlaid in the center of the image in a white serif font with a purple shadow effect.

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Appendix



Appendix

Table 1: 2024 State Legislative Calendar

State	Convenes	Adjourns	Notes
Alabama	Feb. 6, 2024	May 20, 2024	
Alaska	Jan. 16, 2024	May 15, 2024	Full-time legislature
Arizona	Jan. 8, 2024	Apr. 26, 2024	
Arkansas	Apr. 10, 2024	May 9, 2024	
California	Jan. 3, 2024	Aug. 30, 2024	Full-time legislature
Colorado	Jan. 10, 2024	May 8, 2024	
Connecticut	Feb. 7, 2024	May 8, 2024	
Delaware	Jan. 9, 2024	Jun. 30, 2024	
District of Columbia	Jan. 2, 2024	Dec. 31, 2024	
Florida	Jan. 9, 2024	Mar. 8, 2024	
Georgia	Jan. 8, 2024	Mar. 28 2024 (est.)	
Hawaii	Jan. 17, 2024	May 2, 2024 (est.)	Full-time legislature
Idaho	Jan. 8, 2024	Mar. 22, 2024	
Illinois	Jan. 16, 2024	May 24, 2024	Full-time legislature
Indiana	Jan 9, 2024	Mar. 14, 2024	
Iowa	Jan 8, 2024	Apr. 16, 2024	
Kansas	Jan 8, 2024	Apr. 5, 2024	
Kentucky	Jan 2, 2024	Apr. 15, 2024	
Louisiana	Mar. 11, 2024	Jun. 3, 2024	
Maine	Jan. 3, 2024	Apr. 17, 2024	

Appendix

Table 1: 2024 State Legislative Calendar

State	Convenes	Adjourns	Notes
Maryland	Jan. 10, 2024	Apr. 8, 2024	
Massachusetts	Jan. 3, 2024	Jul. 31, 2024	Full-time legislature
Michigan	Jan. 10, 2024	Dec. 31, 2024	Full-time legislature
Minnesota	Feb. 12, 2024	May 20, 2024	
Mississippi	Jan. 2, 2024	May 5, 2024	
Missouri	Jan. 3, 2024	May 17, 2024	
Montana	No regular session		
Nebraska	Jan. 3, 2024	Apr. 18, 2024	
Nevada	No regular session		
New Hampshire	Jan. 3, 2024	Jun. 28, 2024 (est.)	
New Jersey	Jan. 9, 2024	Dec. 31, 2024	
New Mexico	Jan. 16, 2024	Feb. 15, 2024	
New York	Jan. 3, 2024	Jun. 6, 2024	Full-time legislature
North Carolina	Apr. 24, 2024	Jul. 31, 2024 (est.)	
North Dakota	No regular session		
Ohio	Jan. 2, 2024	Dec. 31, 2024	Full-time legislature
Oklahoma	Feb. 5, 2024	May 31, 2024	
Oregon	Feb. 5, 2024	Mar. 10, 2024	
Pennsylvania	Jan. 2, 2024	Nov. 30, 2024 (est.)	Full-time legislature
Puerto Rico	Jan. 11, 2024	Dec. 31, 2024	

Appendix

Table 1: 2024 State Legislative Calendar

State	Convenes	Adjourns	Notes
Rhode Island	Jan. 2, 2024	Jun. 30, 2024 (est.)	
South Carolina	Jan. 9, 2024	May 9, 2024 (est.)	
South Dakota	Jan. 9, 2024	Mar. 25, 2024	
Tennessee	Jan. 9, 2024	Apr. 25, 2024 (est.)	
Texas	No regular session		
Utah	Jan. 16, 2024	Mar. 1, 2024	
Vermont	Jan. 2, 2024	May 9, 2024 (est.)	
Virginia	Jan. 10, 2024	Mar. 9, 2024	
Virgin Islands	Jan. 9, 2024	Dec. 31, 2024	Full-time legislature
Washington	Jan. 8, 2024	Mar. 7, 2024 (est.)	
West Virginia	Jan. 10, 2024	Mar. 9, 2024	
Wisconsin	Jan. 16, 2024	Mar. 14, 2024 (est.)	Full-time legislature
Wyoming	Feb. 12, 2024	Mar. 8, 2024	

Table 2: SIECUS Tracked Bills by Topic Area and State

Green = Advancing Sex Education or Issue Area; Positive

Red = Restricting Sex Education or Issue Area; Negative

* = Enacted into Law

Access to Abortion Care	
Alabama	SB 226
Arizona	SB 1492 , SB 1493
Arkansas	SB 384* , SB 466*
California	SB 345*
Colorado	SB 188* , SB 23-189*
Connecticut	H 5900 , SB 536
Georgia	SB 15 , HB 75
Idaho	H 98
Illinois	HB 2175
Louisiana	HB 549
Minnesota	SF 1832
New Jersey	A 2145 , SCR 21 , ACR 59 , S 3167 , S 3545
New Mexico	HB 438
New York	S 2911
Oregon	HB 2002*
South Carolina	H 3911
Texas	HB 2538
Vermont	H 89*
Assault, Abuse, and Violence Prevention	
Alabama	HB 489
California	AB 665* , AB 1071*
Connecticut	SB 1182
Florida	S 52 , H 379*

Assault, Abuse, and Violence Prevention	
Hawaii	SB 356 , HB 867 , SB 1221 , SB 1216 , SB 308 , HB 550 , HB 548
Idaho	S 1057
Indiana	HB 1070
Kentucky	HB 315
Maryland	HB 461
Massachusetts	H 194 , H 4115
Michigan	SB 66*
Minnesota	HF 181 , SF 1981 , HF 2114 , HF 545
Mississippi	HB 167
New Jersey	A 2812 , S 2360
New Mexico	HB 43
New York	A 302 , A 1157 , S 4092 , S 4420 , S 394
Oregon	HB 2280* , SB 604 , SB 672 , SB 473
Pennsylvania	SB 388
South Carolina	H 3582
Virginia	HB 1560 , HB 1636*
Washington	SB 5355*
West Virginia	SB 124

Access to Birth Control/Contraception/Title X	
Maryland	HB 603
Nevada	SB 439
New Jersey	S 3871 , A 5055
New York	A 1386
Ohio	SB 159
Oklahoma	SB 829
Oregon	HB 2582
South Carolina	HB 0338
Texas	HB 1176 , SB 366 HB 1945
Virginia	HB 1711 , SB 1070
West Virginia	SB 3
Anti-Bullying/Harassment	
California	AB 1165* , AB 10*
Illinois	HB 2049 , SB 90* , HB 3425*
Maryland	HB 576 , SB 629
Minnesota	SF 366
New Jersey	A 1841 , A 186
New York	A 8264
Pennsylvania	HB 1779
Rhode Island	H 5499 , S 1013
Texas	HB 498 , HB 4625 , SB 2185

Sex Education	
Alaska	SB 43 , HB 105 , SB 96
Florida	H 1069*
Georgia	SB 88 , HB 177 , HB 358 , HB 513 , HB 822
Hawaii	HB 288 , HB 1195
Idaho	S 1071 , H 0272 , H 228*
Illinois	SB 1428 , HB 3067 , HB 3168
Indiana	HB 1066 , HB 1608* , HB 1566
Iowa	SF 66 , SF 159 , HF 348 , HSB 222 , HF 480 , SF 496* , HF 166
Kentucky	HB 177
Louisiana	HB 206 , HB 466 , HB 307
Maryland	HB 119 , SB 199
Massachusetts	S 268 , H 544 , H 587 , H 455 , H 461 , H 462 , H 463
Michigan	HF 174 , SF 438 , SF 662
Mississippi	HB 1390* , HB 1443
Missouri	SB 381 , HB 634 , HB 883 , SB 411
Montana	H 432 , SB 315 , HB 502 , HB 566 , SB 413 , SB 437 , HB 759
Nevada	AB 357
New Jersey	S 2483 , A 3883 , S 2481 , A 3968 , A 4042 , S 3077 , A 4660 , A 4801 , SCR 24 , ACR 21 , S 2524 , A 5015
New York	S 2280 , A 3736 , A 4370 , A 4064 , A 5636 , A 1695
North Carolina	HB 185

Sex Education (Cont.)	
North Dakota	HB 1526 , HB 1265*
Oklahoma	HB 1812 , HB 1780 , HB 2546
Oregon	HB 2554 , SB 674 , HB 3024 , HB 2570 , HB 3066
Pennsylvania	SB 293
South Carolina	S 0234 , S 0029 , S 337
Tennessee	HB 122 , HB 643 , SB 1204 , HB 1293
Texas	SB 393 , HB 2101 , SB 1072 , SB 1731 , HB 4017 , SB 163 , HB 478 , HB 78 , SB 59 , SB 30 , HB 20
Utah	HB 334 , HB 550
Virginia	HB 1736
Washington	SB 5009
Wisconsin	SB 437 , AB 526
Foster Care	
Iowa	SF 212
Health Disparities/Menstrual Equity	
California	AB 598 , AB 230*
Connecticut	SB 761
Florida	HB 389 *
Illinois	SB 1286
Louisiana	HB 117
Maine	LD 248
Massachusetts	H 563 , S 1381 , H 534 , H 354

Health Disparities/Menstrual Equity	
Michigan	HB 4104
Minnesota	SF 50 , HF 44
Mississippi	HB 1264*
Missouri	HB 950
Montana	HB 498
New Jersey	S 1221* , A 1349 , S 3763
New Mexico	HB 134*
New York	S 5913A
Oklahoma	SB 176
Oregon	HB 3472 , HB 2167 , SB 246
Pennsylvania	H 851 , H 799
South Carolina	HB 3773 , HB 3302
Texas	HB 1298
West Virginia	SB 590 , AB 631
Bills regarding HIV/STI testing and education for minors	
Arkansas	HB 1007*
Washington	HB 1788

Bills affecting LGBTQIA+ Youth/Students	
Alaska	HB 27 , HB 43 , HB 183
Arizona	SB 1001 , HB 2068 , SB 1040 , HB 2648 , HB 2711 , HB 2351
Arkansas	HB 1156* , SB 199* , HB 1468*
California	AB 5* , SB 857* , AB 589 , SB 760*
Colorado	HB 1098 , HB 1057*
Florida	S 254* , HB 1223 , SB 1320 , HB 1421 , HB 1521
Georgia	SB 140* , SB 141 , H 836 , SB 141
Hawaii	SB 1429 , HB 891 , HB 508 , SCR 45
Idaho	H 71* , H 163*
Illinois	SB 98 , SB 1659 , HB 3157 , HB 4096 , HB 2572 , HB 1562
Indiana	HB 39 , HB 1118 , HB 1231 , HB 1220 , HB 1346 , HB 1525 , SB 480* , HB 1589
Iowa	HF 180 (formerly HF 9), HF 8 , SF 83 , SF 110 , SF 129 , SF 335 , HF 367 , SSB 1197 , HSB 214 , HSB 208 , HF 482 , SF 538* , HF 622 , SF 482* , HF 623 , HF 620 , HF 190
Kansas	SB12 , HB 2238* , SB 207 , HB 2427 , SB 255 , SB 233 , HB 2138* , HB 2263
Kentucky	HB 120 , HB 162 , HB 470
Louisiana	HB 81 , HB 463 , HB 648*
Maine	LD 535* , LD 678 , LD 1410
Maryland	HB 359
Massachusetts	S 259 , H 498 , S 2505
Michigan	HB 4510 , SB 348 , HB 4540 , HB 4539 , HB 4546 , HB 4616
Minnesota	SF 206 , HF 16* , SF 724 , HF 2065 , SF 3272 , SF 3280 , HF 146* , HF 951 , HF3264

Bills affecting LGBTQIA+ Youth/Students (Cont.)	
Mississippi	HB 1127 , HB 1125* , HB 456 , HB 576 , SB 2760 , HB 1124 , SB 2770 , HB 1126 , HB 1258
Missouri	SB 497 , SB 134 , SB 390 , SB 165 , HB 170 , HB 337 , HB 463 , HB 507 , HB 916 , SB 39 , SB 598 , HB 1258 , HB 419 , SB 49* , HR 1817 , SB 285 , HB 540 , HB 337
Montana	SB 99*
Nebraska	LB 179 , LB 575 , LB 574*
Nevada	AB 374 , SB 302
New Hampshire	HB 264 , HB 368 , HB 104 , HB 619
New Jersey	S 358 , A 1592 (previously A 5961), A 1630 , S 589 , S 2648 , A 4109 , S 3076
New Mexico	HB 007* , HB 359 , HB 394 , HB 492 , HB 490 , HM 57 , SB 256
New York	S 351 , S 2428 , S 2475B* , A 4375 , A 4576 , A 6124 , S 6259 , A 6660 , A 6708 , S 7053 , A 7672 , S 1532 , S 4505A
North Carolina	H 43 , H 519 , S 399 , S 560 , H 574* , S 631 , S 636 , S 639 , H 786 , H 808*
North Dakota	HB 1301 , HB 1249* , HB 1473* , HB 1522* , HCR 3010* , SB 2231 , HB 1254*
Ohio	HB 6 , HB 68 , HB 220 , HB 183
Oklahoma	SB 932 , SB 129 , HB 2177 , HB 1011 , HB 1377 , HB 1466 , SB 252 , SB 345 , SB 613 , SB 614 , SB 786 , SB 787 , SB 788 , SB 789 , SB 878 , SB 1007 , SB 937
Oregon	HB 2421* , SB 453 , SB 452 , HB 2458 , HB 3137
Pennsylvania	HB 575 , HB 138

Bills affecting LGBTQIA+ Youth/Students (Cont.)	
Rhode Island	S 391 , S 0957
South Carolina	S 0243 , S 274 , H 3730 , S 0627
South Dakota	HB 1080* , HCR 6008
Tennessee	SB 0001* , HB 0001* , SB 0005 , SB 466* , HB 839 , HB 306* , SB 1237* , HB 1378
Texas	HB 122 , HB 41 , SB 111 , SB 162 , HB 23 , SB 82 , HB 496 , SB 81 , HB 776 , SB 249 , HB 850 , HB 851 , SB 274 , HB 1686 , SB 625 , HB 1752 , HB 2048 , HB 2055 , HB 2722 , HB 3160 , SB 14* , HB 4624 , HB 4534 , HB 4575 , SB 2046 , HB 4961 , HB 5256 , HB 1952 , HB 21 , HB 5026 , SB 649 , SB 1082 , HB 5236
Utah	SB 16* , SB 100* , SB 93* , HB 228*
Vermont	H 106 , H 513
Virginia	HB 1386 , HB 1399 , SB 791 , SB 962 , SB 911 , SB 960 , HB 1707 , HB 2432 , SB 1186 , HB 1434
Washington	SB 5028* , HB 1214 , SB 5462 , HB 1207* , SB 5489
West Virginia	HB 3001 , HB 2007* , HB 3183 , HB 3383 , SB 692 , SB 686 , SB 697
Wisconsin	SB 378 , SB 480 , AB 465 , SB 471 , SB 502
Wyoming	SF 133* , SF 144

Mental Health	
Alaska	SB 24
Arizona	HB 2548 , HB 2601
Arkansas	HB 1323
California	AB 665 , SB 509 , AB 1671
Delaware	HB 137
Georgia	HB 141
Hawaii	HB 850
Illinois	HB 3690 , HB 3598 , HB 1243 , HB 1234 , HB 3449 , HR 0052 , HB 342 , SB 16
Iowa	SF 296
Louisiana	HB 353
Maine	LD 1263 , LD 1809
Massachusetts	S 1273 , S 240 , H 497
Michigan	SB 0029
Minnesota	HF 1151 , SF 1468 , SF 1669
Missouri	HB 1217 , HB 1371 , SB 122 , HB 56
Montana	HB 875
Nevada	SB 313
New Hampshire	SB 151 , HB 505 , SB 184
New Jersey	A 660 , S 2299 , S 528 , A 4587 , S 3543 , A 5521 , A 2815 , S 489
New York	S 4176 , A 4136 , A 4703 , S 7237 , A 7499 , A 7805 , S 5373 , A 3087 , S 5627 , A 6987
North Carolina	H 253
Ohio	HB 38
Oregon	HB 2646 , HB 2636 , HB 2643

Mental Health	
Pennsylvania	HB 472 , SB 764 , HB 1553 , HB 1665 , H.B.1530 , HB 341
Rhode Island	H 5084 , HB 6234
Texas	SB 113 , HCR 46 , SB 1101 , HB 2868 , HB 4200 , SB 1302 , HB 26
Utah	HB 16 , HB 403*
Virginia	HB 2388 , SB 818 , HB 2264 , HB 2346 , HB 1938
West Virginia	HB 2624 , HB 3536
Wisconsin	SB 534 , SB 536 , AB 575 , SB 620
Wyoming	HB 0138
Parental Rights/Curriculum Transparency/Book Bans	
Alabama	HB 6 , SB 202
Arizona	SB 1005 , HB 2533 , SB 1415 , SB 1700 , SCR 1025 , HB 2786 , SB 1410 , HB 2060* , HB 2699
Arkansas	HB 1738 , SB 81* , HB 1468*
California	AB 1314
Colorado	HCR 1004
Connecticut	HB 5117 , HB 5270 , HB 5270 , SB 293 , SB 279 , S. 278 , SB 768
Florida	H 0817 , S 650
Hawaii	SB 1428 , HB 509 , HB 1393
Idaho	H 139 , S 1099 , S 1102 , H 314
Illinois	HB 1072 , HB 1623 , HB 2184

Parental Rights/Curriculum Transparency/Book Bans	
Indiana	HB 1407 , SB 413
Iowa	SSB 1145 , HF 486 , HF 5
Kansas	HB 2236
Kentucky	HB 173 , SB 150* , SB 102 , SB 5* , HB 173
Louisiana	SB 7* , HB 152
Maine	LD 1008 , LD 1008 , LD 1196 , LD 1199 , LD 1518 , LD 1518 , LD 1953
Maryland	HB 666 , SB 566 , HB 1224
Massachusetts	H 458 , H 509 , H 459
Minnesota	SF 76 , HF 353 , SF 1452 , HF 1590 , HF 227 , SF 3032 , SF 3032
Mississippi	HB 509 , SB 2761 , SB 2764 , SB 2763 , SB 2820 , HB 1367 , HB 1479 , HB 1489 , HB 1476 , HB 1480 , HB 1478 , SB 2765
Missouri	HB 482 , SB 4 , SB 42 , SB 158 , SB 318 , SJR 29 , SB 89 , SB 451 , HB 1371 , SJR 6 , SJR 6 , HB 1159 , HB 1238
Montana	LC 152 , LC 2219 , LC 2038 , SB 337 , HB 676* , HB 837 , SB 518*
Nebraska	LB 374 , LB 71
New Hampshire	LB 374 , LB 71
New Jersey	S 585 , A 1418 , S 2233 , A 3800 , A 3763 , A 3920 , S 2919 , A 4386 , A 5110
New York	S 6350 , A 7835 , S 7766
North Carolina	S 49 , H 58 , S 74

Parental Rights/Curriculum Transparency/Book Bans	
Oklahoma	SB 30 , SB 866 , SB 131 , HB 1781 , SB 1017 , HB 2118 , SB 973 , HB 2670 , SB 20 , SB 397 , HB 2078 , HB 2077
Oregon	HB 2477 , HB 2628 , HB 2591 , SB 409 , HB 3044
Pennsylvania	HB 319 , SB 444 , HB 932 , HB 1506 , SB 926
Rhode Island	H 5688 , S 414 , S 179 , S 957
South Carolina	H3485 , H 3197 , S0424 , H 3728 , HR 3764 , H 3827 , S 0743 , HB 3304
Tennessee	SB 620 , HB 1414 , SB 1443* , HB 1377 , SB 1117
Texas	SB 165 , HB 338 , HB 631 , HB 917 , HB 1155 , SB 394 , HB 1541 , HB 1658 , SB 981 , SB 1443 , HB 4116 , SB 13 , HB 4603 , HB 4387 , SB 8 , HB 4055 , SB 2559 , HB 5261 , HB 890 , SB 420 , SB 34 , HB 120 , HB 5290 , HB 166 , SB 595 , SB 77
Utah	HB 465* , H.B. 464 , HB 249* , HB 411*
Virginia	SB 787 , SB832 , HB 2136 , SB 1199 , HB 2170 , HB 1507 , HB 1803 , SB 1329*
Washington	SB 5024 , HB 1601 , SB 5653
West Virginia	SB 422* , HB 3118 , SB 655 , HB 2778
Wisconsin	SB 10 , AB 15 , SB 489 , SB 598 , AB 642 , AB 641 , AB 657
Wyoming	SF 117

Racial Equity/Justice/Diversity/Inclusion	
Alabama	HB 7 , SB 180 , SB 247
Arizona	HB 2513
Connecticut	SB 280 , HB 6396
Illinois	HB 1485 , HB 2187 , SB 1833 , HB 1481 , HB 2490
Indiana	HB 1338
Iowa	SF 81
Louisiana	HR 13
Maine	LD 618
Massachusetts	S 288 , H 542 , H 561
Minnesota	HF 1269 , SF 1476 , HF 1502 , HF 2291 , SF 2442 , HF 2968 , SF 1905
Mississippi	SB 2168
Missouri	SB 172 , HB 165 , HB 75
New Hampshire	HB 309
New Jersey	S 534 , S 386 , A 1517 , A 1363 , A 1280 , A 938 , A 891 , S 598 , A 783 , A 3824 , S 2685 , S 3106 , S 2385
New Mexico	SB 340
New York	A 2534 , S 4502 , S 5963A , A 6579A
Ohio	HB 171

Racial Equity/Justice/Diversity/Inclusion	
Oklahoma	SB 935 , SB 933 , SB 880 , SB 1027
Oregon	HB 2281
Rhode Island	H 5739
	S 0246 , H 3464
Texas	HB 97 , HB 4252 , HB 4545
Utah	HB 427* , HB 441
Virginia	HB 1068 , SB 570 , HB 781
Washington	SB 5441
West Virginia	SB 93 , SB 33 , HB 2423
Wisconsin	SB 198 , SB 505
Wyoming	HB 205
Religious Freedom /Liberty	
New York	A 6228
Oklahoma	SB 865
Texas	HB 319 , HB 2659 , SB 2199
Religious Freedom /Liberty	
Arizona	SB 1146 , SB 1323 , SB 1696
Georgia	SB 154
Indiana	SB 12 , HB 1522 , HB 1130
Iowa	HF 361
Kansas	SB 188
Minnesota	SF 2434 , SF 2174 , HF 248

Religious Freedom/Liberty	
Mississippi	HB 1315 , SB 2141
New Hampshire	HB 514
Oklahoma	SB 95 , SB 872 , HB 1810 , HB 1811
Pennsylvania	HB 1659
South Carolina	H 3826 , S 506
South Dakota	HB 1116 , SB 193 , HB 1163
Tennessee	HB 1090 , SB 1059*
Texas	HB 1655 , HB 900 , HB 1181* , HB 5251 , HB 1404
Utah	HB 138
Virginia	SB 1463
West Virginia	SB 252
Wisconsin	AB 308 , SB 305 , AB 309
Wyoming	HB 220 , HB 283
Bills affecting the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)	
Kansas	HB 2407
New Hampshire	HB 204
New Jersey	S 2280
New York	S 6052
Oregon	HB 3535
Tennessee	HB 1411
Texas	SB 1031