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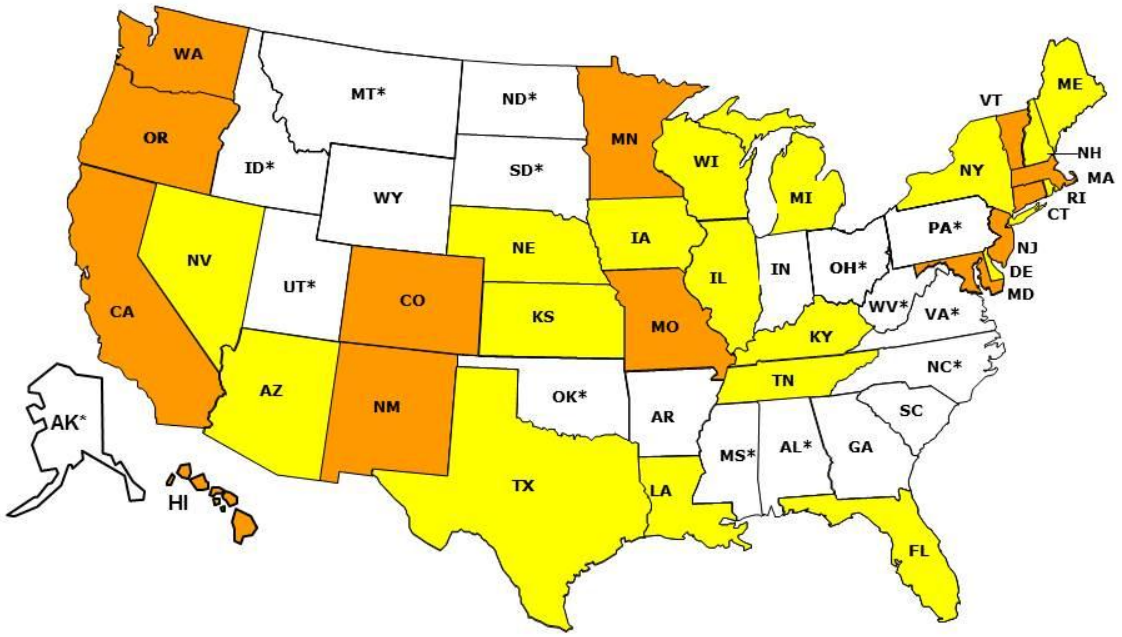
HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

State Hate Crimes Laws



All but five states (Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, South Carolina and Wyoming) have laws addressing the scourge of hate crimes, but there is variation in the list of protected classes. The laws that address hate or bias crimes against LGBT people are as follows.

States that have a law that addresses hate or bias crimes based on sexual orientation and gender identity. (13 states and D.C.)
California (1999), Colorado (2005), Connecticut (2004), District of Columbia (1989), Hawaii (2003), Maryland (2005), Massachusetts (2002/2011), Minnesota (1993), Missouri (2001), New Jersey (2002/ 2008), New Mexico (2003), Oregon (2001/2008), Washington (1993/2009) and Vermont (2001).

States that have a law that addresses hate or bias crimes based on sexual orientation. (31 states and D.C.)
In addition to those listed above, Arizona (2003), Delaware (2001), Florida (2001), Illinois (2001), Iowa (2002), Kansas (2002), Kentucky (2001), Louisiana (2002), Maine (2001), Michigan (2002-data collection only), Nebraska (2002), Nevada (2001), New Hampshire (2002), New York (2002), Rhode Island (2001), Tennessee (2001), Texas (2002), and Wisconsin (2002).

* Laws lacking LGBT inclusion:
States that have a law that addresses hate or bias crimes based, but do not address sexual orientation or gender identity. (14 states)

Alabama, Alaska, Idaho, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Utah (no categories listed), Virginia and West Virginia.