

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR LINDSEY P. HORVATH

June 25, 2024

Support for AB 3031 (Lee and Low): Creation of a Statewide LGBTQ+ Commission

California has long been a national leader in the fight for LGBTQ+ civil rights, passing laws that protect access to gender-affirming care, expanding inclusive education, and ensuring all statewide anti-discrimination protections cover sexual orientation and gender identity. Despite the trailblazing work that has been done here to protect the LGBTQ+ community, our state has not been immune to the wave of anti-LGBTQ+ hate, violence, and extremism sweeping the country.

Hate crimes and violence against LGBTQ+ people are on the rise, with 29% more hate incidents motivated by sexual orientation bias and 55% more hate crimes motivated by anti-transgender or anti-gender nonconforming bias between 2021 and 2022. Local school boards are also moving to reverse hard-fought civil rights protections for the LGBTQ+ community, including imposing 'forced outing' policies for LGBTQ+ students and banning LGBTQ+-inclusive curriculum. Nationally, 520 anti-LGBTQ+ bills were introduced in 2023 in more than 40 states, 84 of which were signed into law. As of early June 2024, 490 anti-LGBTQ+ bills have been proposed across the country.

AB 3031 (Lee and Low) establishes a statewide LGBTQ+ Commission that represents California's diverse LGBTQ+ community and shines a light on the unique

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challenges that LGBTQ+ people face. The Commission will play an important role in formulating statewide policy impacting all LGBTQ+ people, including assessing and monitoring programs and legislation designed to remove systemic barriers.

Local government has led the way on uplifting LGBTQ+ community voices. The city of West Hollywood led the way with the creation of the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board, which was reconstituted as the LGBTQ+ Commission in 2022. Recognizing the unique challenges our trans community members encounter, the City of West Hollywood created the Transgender Advisory Board in 2009, and the City of Los Angeles created the Transgender Advisory Council. In 2023, the Board of Supervisors adopted [Creating and Establishing an LGBTQ+ Commission in Los Angeles County](#) (Solis-Hahn) which recently conducted its first meeting.

AB 3031 is an important step that empowers the LGBTQ+ community with independent representation to advise the Governor and Legislature on policy and regulation, identify statewide needs, and help lawmakers in implementing supportive policies and programs. The Commission will be an important demonstration of California's commitment to being a civil rights leader and will help ensure that the voices of the most vulnerable members in our community are heard at the highest levels of government.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Office-Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations unit to express support for Assembly Bill 3031 (Lee and Low), which establishes in state government the LGBTQ+ Commission to advise the State Legislature and the Governor on policy matters, fact find and collect data, review and assess programs, and provide recommendations that respond to the needs of the LGBTQ+ community.

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