

TYLER CLEMENTI ACT

Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act



Bill Number

Reintroduced in the House as H.R.2151 by Rep. Mark Pocan (WI-2) and in the Senate as S.954 by Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA).

Purpose of Bill

This bill will prohibit the exclusion and discrimination of public school students in federally-assisted educational programs on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity. It will also authorize federal departments and agencies to enforce these prohibitions by cutting off funding to education programs found to be violating them.

Action Request

Urge your senators and representatives to become a cosponsor of this bill, especially if they are in the House Committee on Education and the Workforce or the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. If they have already cosponsored it, make sure to thank them.

Talking Points

- **Schools need to be held accountable.** This bill motivates schools to tackle discrimination and harassment by authorizing federal departments and agencies to cut off funding to education programs that are found in violation of the legislation.
- **We need a clear definition of harassment.** This bill defines harassment as any action that impedes a student's learning process and creates a hostile environment at an institute of higher learning.
- **Students need to be able to assert their rights.** This bill allows students to take a violation to court if they are excluded, discriminated against, or harassed.