



# Playing by the Rules:

Political Advocacy for PFLAG Chapters

If you are ever unsure about 501(c)3 guidelines or rules, don't guess. Reach out to [advocacy@pflag.org](mailto:advocacy@pflag.org) for additional information.

# As 501 (c) 3s, PFLAG Chapters may

- Educate the public and raise public awareness about issues relating LGBTQ+ equality.
- Educate politicians about policy implications and how you, as a constituent, feel about issues.
- Attend public meetings (also known as in-district, Third-House, town hall meetings).
- Host candidate forums that provide equal opportunity (all candidates must be invited) and coverage.
- Join issue-based coalitions.



# PFLAG Chapters may not

- Endorse candidates.
- Issue public statements in favor/opposition of elected officials or candidates, including on the chapter's social media accounts.
- Participate in any political campaigns or endorse any candidate for office.\*
- Make contributions to campaigns.\*
- Engage in partisan discussions at PFLAG meetings.
- Conduct campaign outreach at PFLAG meetings.
- Sell chapter member lists to campaigns.



**Violating these rules may result in the denial (or revocation) of a 501(c)3's tax exempt status.**

# What this means for you

Partisan activity while you are in your role as a PFLAGer/ PFLAG leader is never allowed.

- This applies to anytime you are working in your official PFLAG capacity.\*
- To be sure such activities are not connected to PFLAG:
  - Do not wear PFLAG pins or t-shirts while volunteering for a campaign (or vice versa).
  - Clarify that your opinion/efforts are on behalf of yourself and not PFLAG, when necessary.

## **\*Working in your official PFLAG capacity means...**

- ✓ PFLAG chapter events
- ✓ Monthly support group meetings
- ✓ Coalition meetings
- ✓ Chapter social media
- ✓ Newsletters
- ✓ E-mails to membership

# So, I can't be politically active?

**Of course, you can - go forth and advocate!**

Just be sure that you're doing the right work at the right time. In your personal time, while not representing PFLAG, you may:

- Volunteer for electoral campaigns
- Openly support candidates
- Donate to campaigns or candidates
- Participate in local political advocacy work



# Remember: Your voice is needed!

UNLESS SOMEONE LIKE YOU  
CARES A WHOLE AWFUL LOT, NOTHING  
IS GOING TO GET BETTER. IT'S NOT!

*-Dr. Seuss*

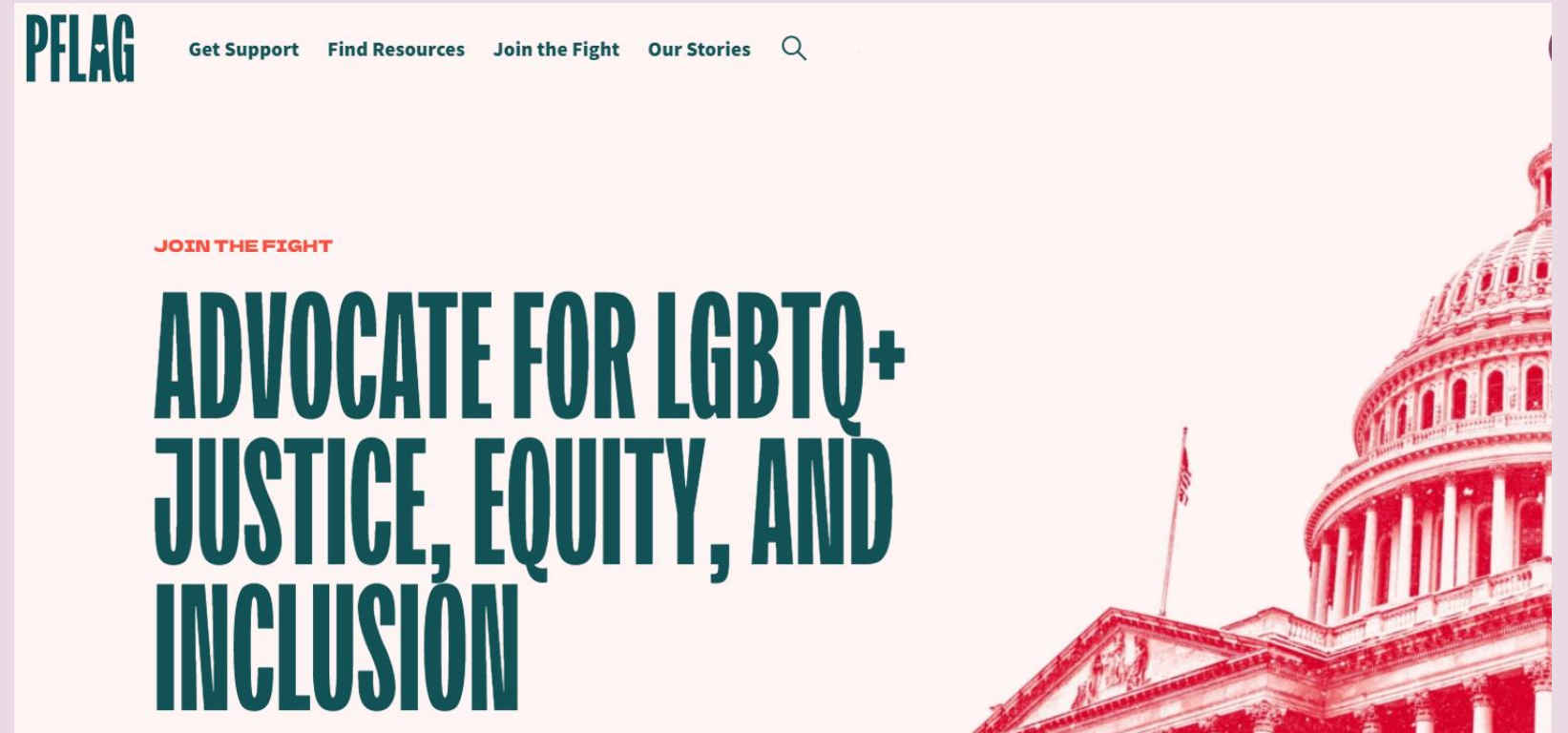




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[pflag.org/jointhefight](https://pflag.org/jointhefight)

Find advocacy tools for your PFLAG Chapter, resources to help you protect LGBTQ+ kids and families, and more!



#PFLAGVOTES

# THANKS YOU

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