



# Why They're Targeting Sex Ed & What We Can Do

**SIECUS**  
SEX ED FOR SOCIAL CHANGE



# Who are we?

SIECUS: Since 1964, SIECUS has been the leading engine advancing Comprehensive Sexual Health Education (CSE) as a vehicle for health equity and social justice

**We do this in 3 key ways:**

- **Policy and Advocacy**
- **Education and Resource Development**
- **Strategic Communications**

Some Resources We're Known For:

- State Profiles, Grading, Heat Maps
- Legislative Reports
- Sexuality Education Policy Action Council (SEPAC)
- If/Then Series
- "Persistent Lies" Video Series





# Fast Facts on Sex Ed in the US

27

states and the District of Columbia have laws requiring sex education, either explicitly in statute or by proxy via enforced state standards.

5 states have laws requiring comprehensive sex education (CSE)

36

states and the District of Columbia specifically require instruction on HIV/AIDS in schools.

14

states are required to provide abstinence-only sex education

16

states do not require sex education or HIV/STI instruction to be any of the following, by law: **age-appropriate, medically accurate, culturally responsive, or evidence-based/evidence-informed.**

19

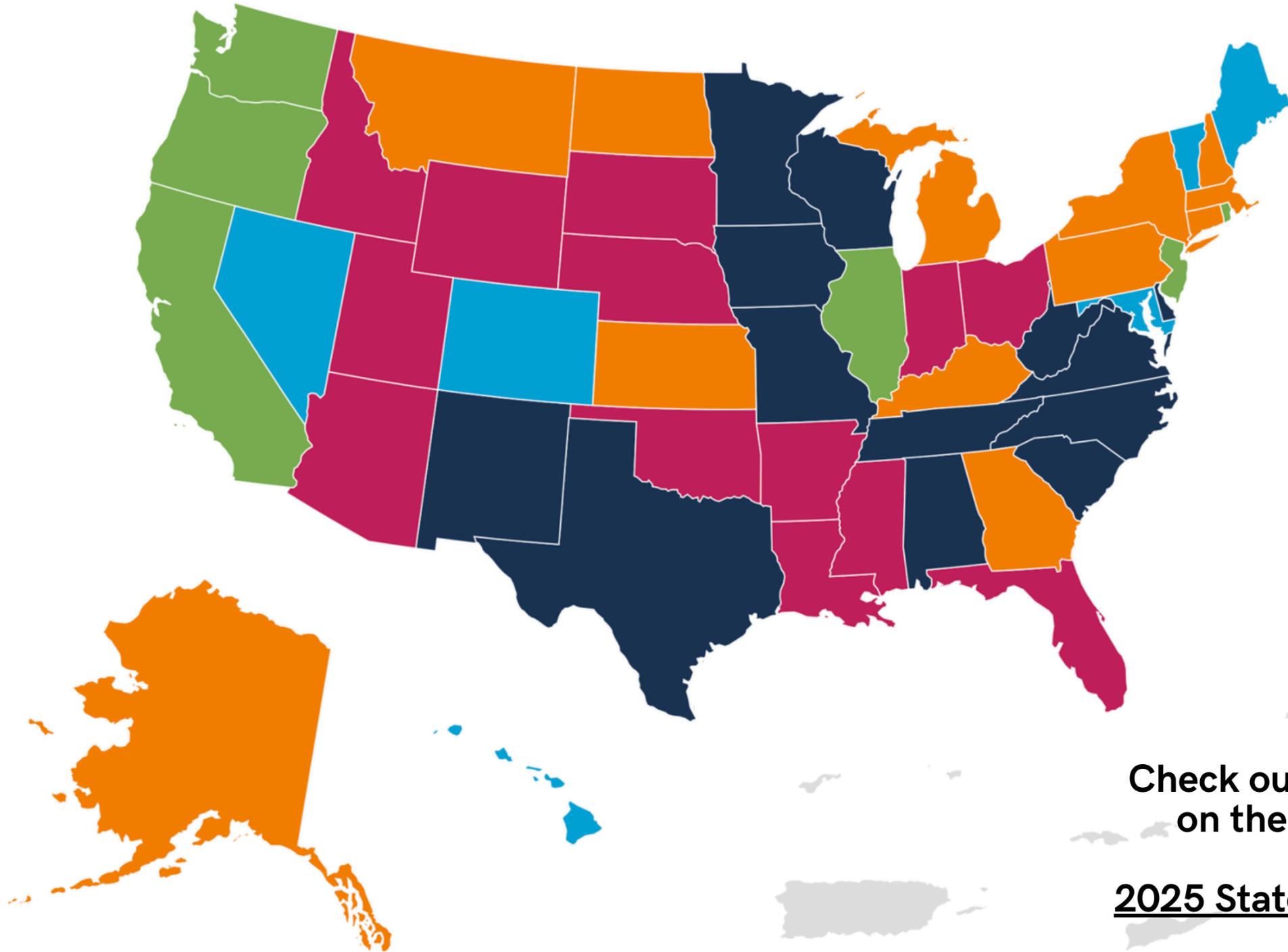
states have laws that create a hostile environment where **LGBTQIA+** students are stigmatized and/or excluded from sex education

8

states and DC states and have policies that require instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity.

# SIECUS State Profiles

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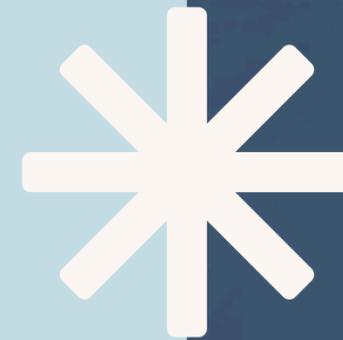


Check out Sex Ed Policy  
on the State Level

2025 State Sex Ed Report  
Card

# Our Report

This annual report wraps up legislative, appropriations, electoral, and advocacy updates post mid-year report released in August 2025, and projects the political landscape for advancing sex education and the rights of young people in order to inform advocacy and policy strategy in the upcoming year.



# Federal Sex Ed Policy (Appropriations)

TPPP

Teen Pregnancy  
Prevention Program

PREP

Personal Responsibility  
Education Program

DASH

CDC's Division of  
School Health

# REAHYA

- **Introduced by Representative Pramila Jayapal (D-WA-07) and Alma Adams (D-NC-12) in US House and Senators Cory Booker (D-NJ) and Mazie Hirono (D-HI)**
- The Real Education and Access for Healthy Youth Act supports the health of young people by providing access to comprehensive sex education and increasing access to sexual and reproductive health care and related services. REAHYA will ensure that youth have access to the resources and health services necessary to make informed decisions about their reproductive and sexual health and future.



# SCOTUS Cases

2025



Mahmoud v Taylor

Opt-out for LGBTQIA+ material

2026



Chiles v Salazar

Constitutionality of minor “conversion therapy” bans



Little v Hecox

Transgender student athlete participation in school sports



West Virginia v BPJ

Constitutionality of minor participation of transgender athletes in interscholastic sports teams

# 2025 State Legislation Quick Stats



SIECUS tracked over 1000 bills in 2025

\*Majority of these were restrictive.



183 bills directly impact sex ed



20% increase in bad bills



86 new laws passed impacting young people

\*18 of these were related to sex ed. ALL are bad bills

# State Legislation Trends

## Eliminating/Restricting Sex Ed

These are bills attempting to

- ban sex education in specific grade levels or altogether.
- turn sex ed into abstinence only instruction
- Repeal medical accuracy requirements or remove content area like contraception and STI prevention

## “Baby Olivia”/Anti-Abortion in Sex Ed

These are bills attempting to:

- Force kids to watch “Meet Baby Olivia”, a propaganda film created by an anti-abortion group
- Require them to learn biased and unnecessarily detailed information on fetal development
- Ban discussion of abortion as a pregnancy outcome and ban repro providers from teaching sex ed
- Force kids to learn that adoption is the “better” choice

## Success Sequencing

These are bills requiring students to learn the “success sequence” which instructs that the only way to be successful is by

- Finishing highschool
- Obtaining full time employment
- Getting married **then** having kids

## Parental Rights and SOGI Bans

These are bills attempting to:

- guarantee already existing rights in the school system for parents, creating admin burden for schools
- make sex ed and other lesson plans OPT IN
- ban discussion on SOGI
- force teachers and counselors to “out” LGBTQIA+ kids

# State Snapshot: Ohio

- **2025 House Bill 96 - Success Sequencing**

General appropriations bill gone wrong - a line item encouraging the instruction of “success sequencing,” **allows youth-serving health centers receiving state funding to use success sequence curriculum as “mental health and wellness instruction.”**



**HB 0178 / SB 0471 was enacted and became Public Chapter No. 224.**

**Trend: Success Sequencing + Baby Olivia legislation introduced together drastically alter honest sex education instruction**

# Fast Forward to 2026

12

**bills  
restricting/eliminating  
sex ed have been  
introduced**

38

**“Baby Olivia” bills  
have been introduced**

**1 Baby Olivia bill has  
passed in South  
Dakota**

4

**“success sequencing”  
bills have been  
introduced**

**1 has passed in Indiana**

61

**so-called “parental  
rights” bills have been  
introduced**

**15 bills have been  
introduced to make sex  
ed opt in**

# State Snapshot: Florida

- 2026 HB 173 / SB 166 - Parental Rights

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row, FL Lawmakers attempted legislation that would require parental consent for STI treatment for minors AND repeal the provision allowing minors to access outpatient mental health care without parental consent

Florida already has sweeping parental rights protections including this office led by the attorney general

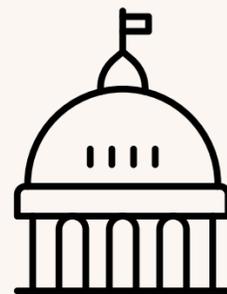


— OFFICE OF —  
**PARENTAL**  
★ **RIGHTS** ★

# Thank You & Stay In Touch



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Check Out Our Bill Trackers:  
[Sex Education Legislation](#)  
[Mandatory Ultrasound Video](#)  
[Viewing in Sex Ed](#)



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