

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 86

Supporting the goals and ideals of GLSEN's 2022 Day of Silence in bringing attention to anti-lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, non-binary, Two-Spirit, intersex, and questioning (LGBTQ+) bullying, harassment, discrimination, and other forms of victimization faced by individuals in schools.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2022

Mr. TAKANO (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. OMAR, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. TITUS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. EVANS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PAPPAS, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. DEAN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. WELCH, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. MENG, Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. GALLEG0, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. SOTO, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTH1, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. CHU, Mr. POCAN, Mr. KAHELE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. TONKO, Mr. BERA, Mr. JONES, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. MANNING, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Mr. MALINOWSKI) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of GLSEN's 2022 Day of Silence in bringing attention to anti-lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, non-binary, Two-Spirit, intersex,

and questioning (LGBTQ+) bullying, harassment, discrimination, and other forms of victimization faced by individuals in schools.

Whereas the National Day of Silence is a day in which students take a vow of silence to bring attention to the anti-LGBTQ+ bullying, harassment, discrimination, and other forms of victimization faced by individuals in schools;

Whereas GLSEN is a national nonprofit organization working to create safe and affirming learning environments in primary and secondary schools nationwide, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression;

Whereas GLSEN designates one day of every April as the Day of Silence;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of students at thousands of schools have participated in the National Day of Silence in past years;

Whereas GLSEN's 2019 National School Climate Survey illustrates the pervasive harassment and victimization faced by LGBTQ+ middle and high school students by documenting their experiences within the preceding academic year;

Whereas nearly 69 percent of LGBTQ+ students reported being verbally harassed by their peers at school because of their sexual orientation, and nearly 57 percent because of their gender expression;

Whereas nearly 26 percent of LGBTQ+ students reported being physically harassed by their peers at school because of their sexual orientation, and nearly 22 percent because of their gender expression;

Whereas 11 percent of LGBTQ+ students reported being physically assaulted by their peers at school because of their sexual orientation, and over 9 percent because of their gender expression;

Whereas nearly 45 percent of LGBTQ+ students reported being cyberbullied;

Whereas 17 percent of LGBTQ+ youth reported being taught negative representations of LGBTQ+ people and history;

Whereas nearly 56 percent of Asian-American and Pacific Islander LGBTQ+ students experienced harassment or assault related to their sexual orientation;

Whereas 82 percent of American Indian or Alaska Native LGBTQ+ (or Two-Spirit) students experienced bullying based on their sexual orientation;

Whereas 60 percent of Latinx LGBTQ+ students experienced bullying based on their gender expression;

Whereas nearly 59 percent of Black LGBTQ+ students experienced bullying based on their sexual orientation;

Whereas nearly 37 percent of LGBTQ+ students reported being harassed at school based on their actual or perceived disability status;

Whereas 59 percent of LGBTQ+ students reported that they felt unsafe in school because of their sexual orientation, and nearly 33 percent reported missing at least one entire school day in the preceding month because of safety concerns;

Whereas transgender students were more likely than all other students to report feeling unsafe at school because of their gender expression, and were more likely to report

missing school or changing schools because they felt unsafe or uncomfortable;

Whereas more than 77 percent of transgender students experienced discrimination at school;

Whereas student academic performance is affected such that LGBTQ+ students who experienced high levels of victimization because of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression report a lower grade point average than those of LGBTQ+ students who experienced low levels of such victimization;

Whereas the presence of four supports—supportive educators, peer networks of support, comprehensive school and district policies, and curriculum that includes positive representations of LGBTQ+ people and history—contributed to a range of positive indicators including fewer reports of missing school, fewer reports of feeling unsafe, greater academic achievement, higher educational aspirations, and a greater sense of school belonging;

Whereas a growing number of States, cities, and local educational agencies are adopting laws and policies to prohibit bullying, harassment, and discrimination against students on the basis of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; and

Whereas every child should be guaranteed an education free from bullying, harassment, and discrimination regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
 2 *concurring), That Congress—*

1 (1) supports the goals and ideals of the Na-
2 tional Day of Silence; and

3 (2) encourages each State, city, and local edu-
4 cational agency to adopt laws and policies to prohibit
5 bullying, harassment, and discrimination against
6 students, teachers, and other school staff regardless
7 of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gen-
8 der expression, so that the Nation's schools are in-
9 stitutions where all individuals are able to focus on
10 learning.

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