POLICY & CIVIL RIGHTS

Federal actions affecting LGBTQ+ Americans

A chronology of selected actions during Donald Trump's first and second administrations.

Sources and stated legal status reviewed: October 28, 2026
Prepared and revised October 28, 2026

16 **First administration**
2017-2021
4 executive orders · 2 presidential memoranda
10 agency-action entries

34 **Second administration**
2025-2026, through research cutoff
7 executive orders
27 agency-action entries

This selected chronology contains 50 entries. Most concern transgender people specifically; four first-term executive orders had broader scope and are identified as such. This document includes executive orders (EOs), presidential memoranda, agency policies, rules, proposals and enforcement actions.

The total of 50 counts chronology entries, not 50 distinct policies currently in force. Entries include actions, proposals and administrative steps; some include successive stages of one initiative. The descriptions identify proposals, court restrictions and subsequent reversals.

Dates, sources and legal status

Dates identify the action or, where labeled, its announcement, publication or effective date. All 50 entries were reviewed against cited records on October 28, 2026; source labels link to original documents or supporting records. Court rulings can affect individual provisions differently and may change after this review. This is a selected chronology, not an exhaustive inventory or a claim that every action directly targeted LGBTQ+ people.

First administration

16 documented entries

2017-2021

Feb. 22, 2017

01 / 50

GUIDANCE WITHDRAWAL

Transgender-student guidance withdrawn

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) and Department of Justice (DOJ) withdrew guidance interpreting Title IX to require access to sex-segregated facilities consistent with gender identity. The action changed federal guidance, not the statute itself.

Sources: Joint DOJ/ED withdrawal letter

March 27, 2017

02 / 50

EXECUTIVE ORDER - BROADER SCOPE

EO 13782: Contractor accountability rollback

Revoked the Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces orders, which required disclosure of specified labor-law violations, including contractor equal-employment violations. It did not revoke EO 13672's express sexual-orientation and gender-identity nondiscrimination protections.

Sources: Executive order; EO 13673 disclosure rules; EO 13672 protections

May 4, 2017

03 / 50

EXECUTIVE ORDER - BROADER SCOPE

EO 13798: Religious-liberty directive

Directed agencies to protect religious liberty and instructed the attorney general to issue guidance on federal religious-liberty protections. Labor subsequently cited this broader order in its rule expanding the religious exemption for federal contractors, an issue affecting LGBTQ workplace protections.

Sources: Executive order; 2020 Labor rule

Aug. 25, 2017

04 / 50

PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

Restrictions on transgender military service

Directed continued restrictions on transgender accessions and an end to military funding for transition-related surgery, with a treatment-protection exception. The memorandum was replaced in March 2018.

Sources: 2017 memorandum; 2018 replacement

First administration / continued

16 documented entries

2017-2021

Oct. 4, 2017

05 / 50

DOJ LEGAL INTERPRETATION

DOJ reverses transgender employment position

Attorney General Jeff Sessions directed DOJ to argue that Title VII did not prohibit gender-identity discrimination. The Supreme Court subsequently held in Bostock, in June 2020, that firing workers for being gay or transgender violates Title VII.

Sources: Sessions memorandum; Bostock opinion

March 23, 2018

06 / 50

PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

Revised transgender military restrictions

Authorized policies generally disqualifying people with a history or diagnosis of gender dysphoria, subject to exceptions. The implementing policy took effect April 12, 2019.

Sources: 2018 memorandum; Defense Department implementation

May 3, 2018

07 / 50

EXECUTIVE ORDER - BROADER SCOPE

EO 13831: Faith initiative and referral change

Established the White House Faith and Opportunity Initiative and removed an executive-order requirement to refer beneficiaries who objected to a provider's religious character to an alternative provider. The change applied broadly to federally funded social services, including those used by LGBTQ people; agencies revised implementing regulations in December 2020.

Sources: Executive order, section 2(b); 2020 implementing rule

May 11, 2018

08 / 50

AGENCY POLICY

Federal prison placement policy revised

The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) made biological sex the initial basis for facility designation and limited placement consistent with gender identity to rare cases meeting additional criteria. Individualized considerations remained; the manual was superseded in January 2022.

Sources: BOP Change Notice 5200.04 CN-1; 2022 BOP manual

First administration / continued

16 documented entries

2017-2021

May 21, 2019

09 / 50

FINAL RULE - PUBLISHED

HHS expands conscience protections

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) expanded definitions and enforcement mechanisms for statutory conscience protections in health care. Federal courts vacated the rule before it took effect.

Sources: Final rule; HHS rule history

Nov. 19, 2019

10 / 50

NONENFORCEMENT NOTICE - PUBLISHED

HHS stops enforcing grant protections

HHS announced nonenforcement of specified portions of its grants regulation, including express sexual-orientation and gender-identity protections. The policy was initially announced November 1, 2019.

Sources: Nonenforcement notice; 2021 rule history

May 15, 2020

11 / 50

ENFORCEMENT FINDING

Connecticut athletics policy challenged

The U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights (OCR) found the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference and six districts in violation of its interpretation of Title IX over their transgender-inclusive athletics policy. This was an agency finding, not a judicial ruling or nationwide regulation; the document is now archived and marked not for reliance.

Sources: Education Office for Civil Rights enforcement letter

June 19, 2020

12 / 50

FINAL RULE - PUBLISHED

Health-care nondiscrimination rule narrowed

HHS removed the Section 1557 definition encompassing gender identity and sex stereotyping, and deleted express sexual-orientation and gender-identity language from several related health-program regulations. Some changes were subsequently enjoined.

Sources: 2020 final rule; HHS injunction history

First administration / continued

16 documented entries

2017-2021

July 1, 2020

13 / 50

PROPOSED RULE - ANNOUNCED

HUD proposes shelter-placement changes

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) proposed allowing qualifying single-sex shelters to use sex-based placement policies instead of requiring placement consistent with gender identity. Published July 24, the proposal was not finalized during Trump's first term and was withdrawn in April 2021.

Sources: HUD announcement; proposal; Withdrawal notice

Sept. 22, 2020

14 / 50

EXECUTIVE ORDER - BROADER SCOPE

EO 13950: Diversity-training restrictions

Restricted specified race- and sex-related workplace training and directed review of grant programs, affecting LGBTQ and HIV-service organizations that provided such training. A federal court blocked its contractor and grant provisions nationwide on December 22, 2020.

Sources: Executive order; Court opinion

Dec. 7, 2020

15 / 50

FINAL RULE - ANNOUNCED

Contractor religious exemption broadened

The Labor Department broadened its interpretation of the religious exemption under federal-contractor nondiscrimination rules, without repealing all LGBTQ protections. Published December 9, the rule took effect January 8, 2021, and was rescinded effective March 31, 2023.

Sources: Dec. 7 announcement; 2020 final rule; 2023 rescission

Jan. 12, 2021

16 / 50

FINAL RULE - PUBLISHED

HHS revises grant nondiscrimination rules

HHS finalized a rule that would replace express protected categories, including sexual orientation and gender identity, with general federal statutory nondiscrimination requirements, and revise marriage-recognition language. The relevant provisions were delayed in litigation and vacated in June 2022.

Sources: 2021 final rule; HHS litigation history; Court-ordered delay notice

Second administration

34 documented entries 2025-2026

Jan. 20, 2025
17 / 50

EXECUTIVE ORDER

EO 14148: Biden LGBTQ policies rescinded

Revoked Biden orders addressing sexual-orientation and gender-identity discrimination, transgender military service and LGBTQI+ equality. EO 14168 separately rescinded several of the same orders.

Sources: Initial rescissions; EO 14168

Jan. 20, 2025
18 / 50

EXECUTIVE ORDER

EO 14168: Federal sex-classification policy

Established administration policy recognizing two sexes, male and female, and directed agencies not to substitute gender identity for sex. It ordered inconsistent guidance rescinded; its applications have been litigated separately.

Sources: EO 14168

January 2025
19 / 50

AGENCY POLICY

Passport sex-marker policy changed

The State Department ended new X-marker passports and required new passports and Consular Reports of Birth Abroad to reflect sex at birth, without automatically invalidating existing passports. The Supreme Court stayed an injunction November 6, 2025, permitting enforcement during litigation.

Sources: Current State Department policy; Supreme Court stay

Jan. 21, 2025
20 / 50

EXECUTIVE ORDER

EO 14173: Contractor protections revoked

Revoked EO 11246 and EO 13672, removing the executive-order framework for federal-contractor nondiscrimination protections, including sexual orientation and gender identity. Title VII and the Supreme Court's Bostock holding remained in place.

Sources: EO 14173; Labor description; Federal employment protections

Second administration / continued

34 documented entries 2025-2026

Jan. 27, 2025
21 / 50

EXECUTIVE ORDER

EO 14183: Transgender military restrictions

Directed revised military-service standards concerning gender dysphoria and transgender service. Biden's order permitting open transgender service had already been revoked January 20; this order directed implementation and additional changes.

Sources: Executive order, section 5

Jan. 28, 2025
22 / 50

EXECUTIVE ORDER

EO 14187: Youth transition-related care

Directed agencies to restrict federal support for specified transition-related interventions for people younger than 19. A nationwide preliminary injunction barred provider-funding withholding; the Fourth Circuit denied rehearing of the government's stay request May 21, 2026.

Sources: EO 14187; Fourth Circuit order

Jan. 29, 2025
23 / 50

EXECUTIVE ORDER

EO 14190: K-12 funding directive

Directed agencies to develop strategies to eliminate federal funding associated with instruction or policies the administration labels "gender ideology." The order expressed administration policy rather than a judicial finding that every affected school policy violates federal law.

Sources: Executive order

Jan. 31 / Feb. 4, 2025
24 / 50

ENFORCEMENT DIRECTIVE

Education returns to 2020 Title IX rules

The Education Department announced a return to enforcing the 2020 regulations and issued a February 4 directive after courts vacated the 2024 rule. The January 9 nationwide court vacatur preceded Trump's inauguration.

Sources: Regulatory history

Feb. 5, 2025
25 / 50

EXECUTIVE ORDER

EO 14201: Transgender athletics directive

Directed Title IX enforcement and funding review against federally funded institutions allowing transgender women and girls to compete in female sports categories. The order states the administration's enforcement position.

Sources: Executive order

Second administration / continued

34 documented entries 2025-2026

Feb. 7, 2025
26 / 50

NONENFORCEMENT POLICY

HUD stops Equal Access Rule enforcement

HUD directed an end to pending and future enforcement under the 2016 rule protecting access consistent with gender identity in covered programs. This preceded the department's April 2026 proposal to revise its regulations.

Sources: HUD announcement; 2026 HUD proposal

Feb. 20, 2025
27 / 50

GUIDANCE WITHDRAWAL

HHS withdraws care and privacy guidance

HHS withdrew its March 2022 guidance concerning gender-affirming care, civil rights and patient privacy. The withdrawal did not repeal the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) or every underlying statutory protection.

Sources: HHS announcement

Feb. 26, 2025
28 / 50

MILITARY IMPLEMENTATION POLICY | DOCKET CHECKED OCT. 28

DOD directs separation of service members

The Department of Defense (DOD) directed separation of service members meeting its gender-dysphoria or transition criteria, with limited waivers, and restricted related medical care. A June 1, 2026 appeals ruling protected named serving plaintiffs while narrowing broader relief; as of October 28, 2026, the Supreme Court petition in United States v. Talbott (No. 26-272) remained pending, with a response due November 2, 2026.

Sources: DOD implementation; Appeals court opinion; Supreme Court docket 26-272

March 17, 2025
29 / 50

AGENCY CARE POLICY

VA restricts gender-dysphoria treatment

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) stopped initiating gender-affirming hormone therapy, with exceptions for veterans already receiving it from VA or receiving it from the military when separating and eligible for VA care. VA said preventive and mental-health services would continue.

Sources: VA announcement

Second administration / continued

34 documented entries 2025-2026

April 2, 2025

30 / 50

AGENCY POLICY

USCIS changes immigration sex markers

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) adopted male/female classifications based generally on birth documentation and revoked its previous X-marker policy. The change applied immediately to pending and newly filed benefit requests.

Sources: USCIS policy bulletin; USCIS policy alert

June 25, 2025

31 / 50

FINAL RULE - PUBLISHED

Transition-related care excluded from EHB

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) excluded specified transition-related procedures from Affordable Care Act (ACA) essential health benefits (EHB) beginning in plan year 2026, while permitting coverage outside that designation. The restriction was vacated August 14, 2026.

Sources: 2025 final rule; CMS rule summary; Aug. 14 court order

July 17, 2025

32 / 50

SERVICE CHANGE - EFFECTIVE

Specialized LGBTQ+ youth 988 services end

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) discontinued specialized LGBTQ+ youth services within the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline while general services continued. The specialized services resumed September 30, 2026, following congressional funding and direction.

Sources: SAMHSA announcement; Restoration announcement

Aug. 15, 2025

33 / 50

INSURANCE COVERAGE DIRECTIVE

Federal employee health coverage restricted

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) directed federal employee and postal health plans to exclude specified transition-related medical and surgical services for 2026, regardless of age. It required a case-by-case exception process for people mid-treatment and retained counseling coverage.

Sources: OPM Carrier Letter 2025-01b

Second administration / continued

34 documented entries 2025-2026

Aug. 19, 2025
34 / 50

FUNDING ENFORCEMENT

Five Virginia school divisions face conditions

The Education Department designated Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William high-risk over transgender-inclusive facilities policies, imposed reimbursement conditions and began proceedings seeking funding suspension or termination. On October 15, 2026, an appeals court revived Fairfax and Arlington's legal challenge without deciding the policies' legality; it noted that neither district had yet lost funding.

Sources: ED release, court exhibit; Oct. 15 appeals ruling

Dec. 18, 2025
35 / 50

HHS SECRETARY DECLARATION

Pediatric treatment standards challenged

The HHS secretary declared specified pediatric gender-affirming treatment inconsistent with professional standards, threatening providers' participation in federal health programs. The declaration was struck down in April 2026, and a court rejected a request to narrow that ruling in September.

Sources: HHS/CMS announcement; April 18 judgment; Sept. 17 opinion

Dec. 19, 2025
36 / 50

PROPOSED RULE - PUBLISHED

CMS proposes hospital participation limits

CMS proposed barring Medicare- and Medicaid-participating hospitals from specified transition-related procedures for patients under 18, regardless of who pays. The materials reviewed did not establish a final rule.

Sources: Hospital proposal

Jan. 22, 2026
37 / 50

GUIDANCE RESCISSION

EEOC rescinds workplace-harassment guidance

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) voted 2-1 to rescind its 2024 guidance, which included gender-identity-related harassment examples. The action withdrew agency guidance without repealing Title VII or Bostock.

Sources: EEOC announcement; EEOC background

Second administration / continued

34 documented entries 2025-2026

Feb. 19, 2026
38 / 50

AGENCY TREATMENT POLICY | STATUS CHECKED OCT. 28

Federal prison treatment restrictions

The Bureau of Prisons adopted restrictions on transition-related surgery, hormones and social accommodations, including plans to discontinue existing hormone treatment. On October 21, 2026, the Supreme Court declined to pause an August 26 injunction blocking enforcement, leaving it in place without deciding the policy's legality.

Sources: BOP policy and injunction memo; Oct. 21 Supreme Court order; Aug. 26 injunction, pp. 204a-207a

Feb. 26, 2026
39 / 50

ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL DECISION

EEOC reverses federal bathroom precedent

The EEOC held that federal agencies may exclude transgender employees from facilities inconsistent with the agency's sex classification, reversing part of its Lusardi precedent. The decision governs federal administrative complaints and does not bind courts or private employers.

Sources: EEOC decision announcement

March 11, 2026
40 / 50

GRANT CONDITIONS

HRSA adds sex-related award conditions

Terms from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for new discretionary awards and funding modifications added sex-based definitions and an objective against supporting medical interventions for gender dysphoria in minors that the agency describes as lacking a strong evidence base. These requirements apply in programs authorized to advance them and remain subject to applicable law and court orders.

Sources: HRSA award terms

March 31, 2026
41 / 50

INSURANCE COVERAGE DIRECTIVE

OPM ends treatment exceptions for 2027

OPM instructed federal employee and postal health-plan carriers to remove ongoing-treatment exceptions for hormonal or surgical regimens for diagnosed gender dysphoria beginning in plan year 2027. Counseling coverage must remain available.

Sources: OPM 2027 instructions

Second administration / continued

34 documented entries 2025-2026

April 6, 2026
42 / 50

ENFORCEMENT WITHDRAWAL

Education withdraws Title IX agreement terms

The Education Department stopped monitoring or enforcing provisions addressing gender-identity discrimination in resolution agreements with five school districts and Taft College.

Sources: Education announcement

April 23, 2026
43 / 50

PROPOSED RULE - ANNOUNCED

HUD proposes broad regulatory revisions

HUD proposed removing or revising sexual-orientation and gender-identity language across nearly 50 of its regulations, including Equal Access provisions. Published April 28, the proposal was HUD-wide; no final rule was identified in the materials reviewed.

Sources: HUD announcement; proposed rule

May 6-8, 2026
44 / 50

RULE AND FORM PROPOSALS

ATF proposes firearms-form sex changes

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) proposed male/female sex classifications on its forms and removal of the nonbinary option from Form 4473. ATF said the sex-definition proposal would not change substantive eligibility criteria; neither proposal established a categorical ban on transgender gun ownership.

Sources: May 6 proposal; May 8 form notice; ATF current explanation

June 2, 2026
45 / 50

NONENFORCEMENT NOTICE - PUBLISHED

HHS confirms Section 1557 nonenforcement

Following an October 2025 court judgment, HHS announced that it would not enforce vacated gender-identity provisions of its 2024 Section 1557 rule. The notice did not repeal the entire ACA nondiscrimination statute.

Sources: HHS announcement; Federal Register notice

Aug. 13, 2026
46 / 50

FINAL RULE - PUBLISHED

Medicaid and CHIP youth-care funding restricted

CMS ended federal funding for specified transition-related medication and surgery for Medicaid beneficiaries under 18 and separate Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) beneficiaries under 19, effective October 13, 2026. The rule allowed up to six months of funded tapering and state-only or private funding; litigation continued, with no stay identified at the research cutoff.

Sources: CMS announcement; final rule; Oct. 5 court order; Oct. 6 schedule

Second administration / continued

34 documented entries 2025-2026

Aug. 21, 2026
47 / 50

FINAL RULE - PUBLISHED

Labor finalizes contractor-rule repeal

The Labor Department finalized rescission of regulations implementing EO 11246, including its sexual-orientation and gender-identity protections, with an October 26, 2026 effective date. The rule followed the January 2025 executive-order revocation and did not repeal Title VII.

Sources: Final rule

Sept. 1, 2026
48 / 50

ENFORCEMENT LAWSUIT

DOJ sues over student-transition records

DOJ sued Kansas City, Kansas, Public Schools under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment over policies it alleged withheld students' social-transition information from parents. The complaint's allegations were not established court findings.

Sources: DOJ announcement; Filed complaint

Sept. 18, 2026
49 / 50

PROVIDER SETTLEMENTS

NYU Langone and UPMC treatment agreements

DOJ announced agreements requiring NYU Langone and UPMC to stop specified gender-affirming treatments for minors, following similar agreements with other hospitals. The providers denied the allegations; the settlements made no liability determination and did not establish a national statutory ban.

Sources: DOJ announcement

Sept. 29, 2026
50 / 50

FINAL RULE - EFFECTIVE / PUBLISHED

Earlier Title IX regulatory text restored

The Education Department removed the already-vacated 2024 regulatory text and restored the earlier regulations, with limited exceptions. The action formalized the text after the 2024 rule had ceased being enforced following its January 2025 vacatur.

Sources: Final rule