



**Arizona LGBTQIA+ Archives®©**

**President Joe Biden Archives®**



Arizona LGBTQIA+ Archives®©  
President Joe Biden supported [same-sex marriage](#) starting in 2012<sup>[496][497]</sup>

Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved

*“Who do you love? And will you be loyal to the person you love? And that’s what people are finding out is what all marriages, at their root, are about.”*

—Joe Biden, “Meet the Press,” May 6, 2012

## President Biden's Pro-LGBTQ+ Timeline

President Biden has said he is committed to being a champion for LGBTQIA+ people every day while he is working in the White House.

From protecting people from discrimination to addressing the epidemic of violence against Transgender people to ensuring a safe future for LGBTQIA+ youth.

December 1, 2021 - President Biden Commemorates World AIDS Day

President Biden marked World AIDS Day with an event at the White House and announced a new National HIV/AIDS Strategy with the goal of ending the HIV epidemic in the United States by 2030.

Today, I wore a red ribbon to mark World AIDS Day. It’s a reminder of how far we’ve come, the work we have left, and the price we paid along the way. Ending the HIV epidemic is within our reach, and my Administration is committed to finishing this work. [pic.twitter.com/zGrQRAdc4k](https://pic.twitter.com/zGrQRAdc4k)

November 20, 2021 - White House Honors Transgender Day of Remembrance

President Biden issued a statement remembering the Transgender victims of fatal violence. At least 46 known and or reported Transgender people were murdered in the United States in 2021. The President said, "Transgender people are some of the bravest Americans I know. But no person should have to be brave just to live in safety and dignity."

November 17, 2021 - President Biden Nominates Alison Nathan to the Federal Bench

The White House announced that President Biden is nominating Alison Nathan to a seat on the United States Court of Appeals of the Second Circuit. When and if confirmed, she would be the second openly Lesbian woman born as a female to serve on a federal appellate court.

October 27, 2021 - State Department Announces the Issuance of the First U.S. Passport with 'X' Gender Choice

The State Department will begin to allow passport applicants to use the ‘X’ gender choice option in early 2022. Intersex, non-binary, or gender non-conforming people can choose a gender-neutral choice for their passports and Consular Report of Birth Abroad. The new policy no longer requires medical certification if an applicant’s self-selected gender does not match the gender on their birth certificate, other citizenship, or other identity documents.

October 26, 2021 - White House Announces First-Ever National Strategy on Gender Equity and Equality

This policy will create a National Intelligence Officer for Gender Equality to analyze the relationship between gender and violent extremism.

October 20, 2021 - White House Publishes Op-Ed Opposing Texas' Anti-Trans Legislation

After the Texas legislature passed an anti-trans bill attacking Transgender youth, the White House published an op-ed in the Dallas Morning News saying, "This hateful bill in Texas is just the latest example of Republican state lawmakers using legislation to target Transgender kids — whom the president believes are some of the bravest Americans — in order to score political points."

October, 18, 2021 - Dr. Rachel Levine Sworn in as Four-Star Admiral

Dr. Rachel Levine, who serves as the Assistant Secretary for Health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, was sworn in as an admiral of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, becoming the first-ever openly Transgender four-star admiral.

Congratulations to Admiral Rachel Levine who today became the nation's first openly transgender four-star officer and first-ever female four-star admiral of the [@usphscc](https://twitter.com/usphscc). We're grateful for your hard work on behalf of the American people! <https://t.co/qlTpPWVg4Q>

October 11, 2021 - President Biden Issues a Statement on National Coming Out Day

President Biden issued a statement in recognition of National Coming Out Day and showed his administration's support for LGBTQ+ people nationwide. The statement also included criticism of the state legislatures that have introduced or passed legislation targeting the LGBTQ+ community, specifically trans youth. ©

September 21, 2021 - President Biden Urges International Support for the LGBTQ+ Community During UN General Assembly Speech

President Biden spoke in support of the global LGBTQIA+ community in his speech during the UN General assembly. The President said, "We all must defend the rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals so they can live and love openly without fear," while specifically calling out a number of human rights abuses such as the LGBTQ+ discrimination in Russian Chechnya and Cameroon.

September 20, 2021 - President Biden Recognizes 10-Year Anniversary of Don't Ask Don't Tell Being Repealed

On the 10-year anniversary of the repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell Military Policy, President Biden commemorated the date and reiterated his support for LGBTQ+ service members across the country.

Ten years ago today, the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell helped move our nation closer to its foundational promise of equality, dignity, and opportunity for all. I am thankful for all of the LGBTQ+ service members and veterans who strengthen our military and our nation.

August 18, 2021 - Departments of Education, Justice and HHS Release Message for Transgender Students

Arizona LGBTQIA+ Archives ©  
Leaders at the Departments of Education, Justice and Health and Human Services released a back-to-school message for transgender students. The video highlighted the administration's work to combat discrimination in schools and offered support and guidance to any students in need. ©

August 13, 2021 - White House Appoints Two Openly LGBTQ+ Leaders to U.S. AbilityOne Commission

The White House announced the appointments of Gabe Cazares and Chai R. Feldblum, both of whom are openly LGBTQ+, to seats on the U.S. AbilityOne Commission. They will both serve five-year terms on the AbilityOne Commission.

August 5, 2021 - President Biden Nominates Two Openly LGBTQ+ Women to the Federal Bench

The White House announced the nomination of Justice Beth Robinson and Charlotte Sweeney to the federal bench. Robinson was nominated to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit while Sweeney was nominated to the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado.

July 2, 2021 - White House Announces Nomination of Chantale Wong as U.S. Director of the Asian Development Bank

The Biden-Harris administration nominated Chantale Wong to serve as the new U.S. Director of the Asian Development Bank. If confirmed, Wong would become the first openly LGBTQ+ woman and first LGBTQ+ person of color to serve at an ambassador-level role.

June 30, 2021 - White House Forms Interagency Working Group Focused on Safety, Inclusion, and Opportunity for Transgender Individuals

President Biden announced the establishment of an interagency working group led out of the White House that will coordinate policies to advance safety, economic opportunity, and inclusion for Transgender people. The working group will include participants from the Departments of Justice, Housing and Urban Development, Health and Human Services, Education, Homeland Security, Labor, Interior, Veterans Affairs, and Defense. The Department of State and USAID will also participate to strengthen their efforts to protect transgender individuals from violence and discrimination around the world. The creation of this working group aligns with recommendations outlined in HRC's 2020 Blueprint for Positive Change.

June 30, 2021 - State Department Announces Changes to Passport Gender Choices

The Biden–Harris Administration announced that the U.S. Department of State will begin the process of including a non-binary gender choice and have modernized existing requirements for updating gender choices on United States passports — a policy that will impact millions of individuals in the U.S., including 1.2 million non-binary adults, 2 million transgender people, and as many as 5.5 million people who were born intersex. This new policy aligns with recommendations outlined in HRC's 2020 Blueprint for Positive Change.

June 25, 2021 - White House Signing of National Pulse Memorial Legislation

During an event at the White House, President Joe Biden signed into law the Pulse National Memorial, which will honor and remember the victims and survivors of the Pulse Nightclub massacre by designating the space a national memorial.

June 17, 2021 - Department of Justice Moves To Protect Transgender Young People Against Discriminatory State Legislation in West Virginia & Arkansas

The Biden Administration's Department of Justice filed two statements of interest in litigation challenging state laws that violate the legal rights of transgender young people. In one statement, the Department of Justice asserts that West Virginia's law prohibiting transgender women and girls from playing on teams consistent with

their gender identity (WV HB 3293), enacted in April of 2021 violates federal law. The other statement of interest asserts Arkansas' law (AR HB 1570) that prohibits medical providers from providing transgender youth with certain medically necessary care, enacted by the legislature in April of 2021, violates the Constitution.

June 16, 2021 - Department of Education Says Title IX Protections Apply to LGBTQ students

The Department of Education issued a notice of interpretation that Title IX prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, a reversal of the Trump administration's stance that LGBTQ+ students are not protected by the law. The Department cited the Supreme Court's ruling in Bostock that federal civil rights law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex protects LGBTQ+ people.

June 1, 2021 - Kamala Harris Becomes First Sitting Vice President to March in Pride Parade

Vice President Kamala Harris walked in the Capital Pride Walk and Rally in Washington, D.C., making history as the first sitting Vice President to march in a Pride event. During the march, Harris delivered brief remarks to the crowd, advocating for the Senate to pass the Equality Act.

June 1, 2021- President Biden Restores Tradition of Recognizing Pride Month in Official Proclamation

President Joe Biden formally declared June as Pride Month and reiterated his pledge to defend the rights of the LGBTQ community.

May 19, 2021 - U.S. Expands Birthright Citizenship Of Babies Born In Foreign Countries To Same-Sex Couples

The State Department updated its policy to recognize the U.S. citizenship of babies born in foreign countries to same-sex couples, regardless of whether an American parent is biologically related. Under the new policy, children born to same-sex or heterosexual couples in foreign countries through in vitro fertilization, surrogacy or other reproductive technology will be recognized as United States citizens at birth as long as at least one of the parents is American.

May 17, 2021 - President Biden Recognizes IDAHOTB

President Biden officially recognized the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia, and reiterated his commitment to LGBTQ rights around the world. IDAHOTB is recognized internationally and brings attention to the continued need for equality for all LGBTQ people.

President Biden: "Everyone is entitled to dignity and equality, no matter who they are, whom they love, or how they identify — and we will continue to engage with allies and partners to advance the human rights of [#LGBTQI+](#) people." [#IDAHOTB](#) <https://t.co/k4jF0eBRSE>

May 10, 2021 - President Biden Enforces Non-Discrimination Protections in Health Care

The Biden administration announced it would enforce federal policy to protect LGBTQ people from discrimination in health care based on gender identity & sexual orientation through Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act. Trump had previously sought to strip those protections in 2020, but the roll-back was blocked through a preliminary injunction issued in response to a lawsuit filed by the Human Rights Campaign against the administration.

The Biden administration is enforcing federal policies to protect LGBTQ people from discrimination in health care based on gender identity & sexual orientation.

We successfully sued the Trump admin for stripping health care protections away from LGBTQ people.

April 27, 2021 - President Biden Nominates Gina Ortiz Jones as Undersecretary of the Air Force

The Biden-Harris administration announced Gina Ortiz Jones as its nominee for Undersecretary of the Air Force. Jones, an openly lesbian Filipino-American who served in the Air Force and overseas in Iraq, would become the first woman of color undersecretary if confirmed.

Gina Ortiz Jones has proudly served our country and will continue to do so as our next Undersecretary for the Air Force. Congratulations on this historic nomination, [@GinaOrtizJones!](#) <https://t.co/sgkT8UTMOq>

April 23, 2021 - Department of Justice Advocates for Fair Treatment of Incarcerated Transgender Individuals

The Department of Justice announced in a statement of interest in litigation that under the 8th Amendment, incarcerated trans people must be housed according to their gender identity and provided gender-affirming care.

The Department of Justice has announced that under the 8th Amendment, incarcerated transgender people must be housed appropriately and given access to gender-affirming care. <https://t.co/kP7xG2MCNA>

April 23, 2021 - President Biden Announces Historic Nominations to the Department of Defense

The Biden-Harris administration announced plans to nominate two LGBTQ officials within the Department of Defense. Shawn Skelly will be nominated for Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness, and previously made history as the first trans veteran appointed by a U.S. president under President Obama. Brenda Sue Fulton, a lesbian West Point graduate and former Army officer, will be nominated for Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

As promised, [@POTUS](#) is continuing to build an administration reflective of our nation's people and rich diversity.

Representation matters. Congratulations to both Shawn Skelly and Brenda Sue Fulton on their historic appointments. <https://t.co/QuJaVVpAek>

April 22, 2021 - Department of Housing & Urban Development Withdraws Trump-Era Proposal to Gut Equal Access Rule

arizonalgbtqiarchives.org

Secretary Fudge announced plans to withdraw Trump-era proposed changes to the Equal Access Rule. The Obama administration's policy ensures non-discrimination protections in HUD-funded housing and programs based on both sexual orientation and gender identity. It also protects LGBTQ families and ensures people seeking emergency housing are housed safely in accordance with their gender identity.

[@HUDgov](#) has withdrawn Trump era proposed changes to the Equal Access Rule, reaffirming non-discrimination protections in HUD-funded housing/programs on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Arizona LGBTQIA+ Archives ®

Housing is a human right and should be free of discrimination.

Copyrighted - All Rights Reserved

April 13, 2021 - Department of Housing & Urban Development Announced Plans to Restore Housing Protections

The Department of Housing & Urban Development issued a notice of intent to restore both the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule and the disparate impact rule. Both rules were previously gutted under the Trump administration and would promote equality for historically marginalized populations, including LGBTQ people.

April 5, 2021 - Department of Justice Issues Memo on Title IX Protecting LGBTQ Students

Following President Biden's executive order affirming the Supreme Court's decision in *Bostock vs. Clayton County*, the Department of Justice issued a memo determining that Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. This ensures complaints of discrimination LGBTQ students in federally-funded schools will be investigated by the Department of Education.

March 31, 2021 - Department of Defense Releases Detailed Directives on Reversing Transgender Military Ban

The Department of Defense released detailed directives to formally roll back the ban on transgender military service set in place under Trump. These actions followed President Biden's earlier executive order repealing the discriminatory ban.

March 31, 2021 - President Biden Issues Transgender Day of Visibility Message

President Biden issued a statement celebrating International Transgender Day of Visibility. This marked the first time a sitting president acknowledged the day dedicated to lifting up Transgender voices, stories and the continued fight for full equality.

Transgender rights are human rights — and I'm calling on every American to join me in uplifting the worth and dignity of transgender Americans. Together, we can stamp out discrimination and deliver on our nation's promise of freedom and equality for all. [#TransDayofVisibility](#)



March 30, 2021 - Secretary of State Blinken Rejects Conclusion on the Commission on Unalienable Rights

Secretary of State Blinken rebuked the Trump administration's findings within its Commission on Unalienable Rights, which tried to assert some human rights issues took priority over others. The conclusion was an attempt to undermine efforts to strengthen the rights of LGBTQ people and women.

March 24, 2021 - Dr. Rachel Levine Confirmed as Assistant Secretary for Health at the Department of Health & Human Services

Dr. Rachel Levine was confirmed as the next Assistant Secretary for Health in the Department of Health & Human Services, becoming the first-ever openly transgender official confirmed by the Senate. She represents just one of the many historic appointments under the Biden-Harris administration.

History made: Dr. Rachel Levine was just confirmed as the next Assistant Secretary for Health, becoming the first-ever openly transgender federal official confirmed by the Senate.

Trans people are leaders, innovators and change-makers — and we deserve a seat at every table.

[pic.twitter.com/bNotSqaWDu](https://pic.twitter.com/bNotSqaWDu)

March 9, 2021 - Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Enforces Equal Credit Opportunity Act

Following President Biden's executive order, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) released an interpretive rule enforcing the Equal Credit Opportunity Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. The rule will ensure LGBTQ people do not face discrimination when accessing financial services such as loans or credit.

March 8, 2021 - Executive Orders on Gender Equality and Title IX

President Biden issued two executive orders commemorating International Women's Day. The first called for the creation of a White House Gender Policy Council to advance gender equality in domestic and foreign policy development, combat systemic bias and discrimination, focus on increasing female participation in the labor force and decrease wage and wealth gaps. The second order directs the Department of Education to review all of its regulations, orders and guidance, including Title IX, to ensure they are consistent with the administration's work aimed at stopping sexual violence on campuses nationwide.

February 23, 2021 - Department of Veterans Affairs Expands Support for Trans Veterans

At President Biden's direction, the Department of Veterans Affairs announced it would begin reviewing its policies to ensure they are inclusive of all gender identities and gender expressions. This includes a plan to end the ban on gender-affirming care for Trans veterans.

At President Biden's direction, the [@DeptVetAffairs](https://twitter.com/DeptVetAffairs) announced new policies that will usher in systemic changes expanding support for LGBTQ veterans.

One major change: they will begin planning to end the ban on gender-affirming care for trans veterans.



## February 19, 2021 - President Biden Encourages Passage of the Equality Act

After reintroduction of the Equality Act in the House, President Biden shared his support for the legislation and called on Congress to swiftly sign it into law. The Equality Act would create sweeping protections for LGBTQ people in housing, education, health care and more. The White House later put out its official statement of administration policy supporting the legislation.

The Equality Act provides long overdue federal civil rights protections for LGBTQ+ Americans, preventing discrimination in our housing, education, public services, and lending systems. I urge Congress to swiftly pass this historic legislation.

## February 11, 2021 - Fair Housing Act Enforced to Protect LGBTQ People

The Department of Housing and Urban Development, at the direction of President Biden, announced it would enforce the Fair Housing Act to prohibit discrimination against LGBTQ people, a step toward addressing the housing challenges many in our community face.

Under President Biden's direction the Housing and Urban Development Department announced it will enforce the Fair Housing Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

It is illegal to deny you housing based on who you are or how you identify.

## February 10, 2021 - Biden-Harris Administration Postpones Discriminatory Trump-Era HHS Rule Change

The Biden-Harris administration announced it would halt implementation of a discriminatory Trump-era rule under the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The rule would have permitted discrimination against LGBTQ people, religious minorities and women in programs related to foster care, adoption, HIV and STI prevention, youth homelessness, refugee resettlement, elder care programs and more.

## February 9, 2021 - Press Secretary Psaki Affirms Trans Rights are Human Rights

During a daily press briefing, Press Secretary Jen Psaki received a question regarding the administration's stance on transgender students participating in sports. Psaki made the President's position clear - trans rights are human rights.

## February 4, 2021 - Memorandum on Protecting Rights of LGBTQ People Abroad

President Biden issued a memorandum aimed at protecting the rights of LGBTQI people worldwide. This memorandum comes at a time when same-sex relations are still criminalized in 69 countries, with same-sex conduct punishable by death in nine of them.

## February 2, 2021 - Pete Buttigieg Confirmed as Transportation Secretary

Pete Buttigieg was confirmed by the Senate with a vote of 86-13 to become the next Transportation Secretary. He is now the first-ever openly LGBTQ Cabinet member confirmed by the full Senate.

The Senate confirmed [@PeteButtigieg](#) as Transportation Secretary, making him the first-ever openly LGBTQ person to be confirmed by the Senate to a United States Federal Government Cabinet-level post.

## January 28, 2021 - Global Gag Rule Rescinded

President Biden signed an executive memorandum to immediately rescind the so-called Mexico City Policy, also known as the “global gag rule,” a decades-old policy barring international nonprofits from receiving U.S. funding if they provide abortion counseling or referrals.

## January 25, 2021 - Repeal of the Ban on Transgender Military Service

Within his first week in office, President Biden followed through on his promise to repeal the discriminatory ban on transgender people serving openly in the military. An estimated 15,000 service members were impacted by the policy enacted under Trump. President Biden ended the ban on transgender military service set in place under the Trump administration.

## January 23, 2021 - Department of Justice Reversal of Trump Era Memorandum Designed to Limit Bostock Implementation

Implementing President Biden’s executive order regarding *Bostock v. Clayton County*, the Department of Justice revoked a Trump era memorandum that was designed to substantially limit application of the decision with respect to workplace nondiscrimination law and to refute application to other areas of law.

President Biden acted to undo the harm imposed by the Trump administration, instructing the Department of Justice to both recognize and implement the Supreme Court’s pro-LGBTQ ruling in *Bostock vs. Clayton County*. <https://t.co/CZqjIeq198>

Arizona LGBTQIA+ Archives <sup>®</sup><sub>©</sub>

## January 22, 2021 - First Lady Dr. Jill Biden Visits Whitman-Walker Health

As one of her first official visits as First Lady, Dr. Jill Biden visited Whitman-Walker, one of the foremost LGBTQ clinics and providers for those living with HIV & AIDS. The visit was a clear indication that this administration will make our health and well-being a priority.

## January 21, 2021 - Trump Ban on Diversity Training Revoked

President Biden revoked a former Trump order that had banned federal agencies, contractors and recipients of federal funding from conducting certain diversity training on race and sex that also had implications for trainings on sexual orientation and gender identity.

## January 20, 2021 - Equity Orders on Racial Equity & Support for Underserved Communities

President Biden issued an executive order advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities through the federal government, explicitly including LGBTQIA+ people within the measures. The executive order includes a commitment to ensuring equitable access to government programs, engagement with underserved communities and the creation of an Interagency Working Group on Equitable Data.

President Biden issued an executive order on advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities nationwide.

January 20, 2021 - Executive Order Implementing the Bostock Decision

On day one, President Biden issued the most substantive, wide-ranging LGBTQ+ executive order in U.S. history, extending protections against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

The executive order affirmed the Supreme Court’s decision in Bostock vs. Clayton County, which secured workplace protections, and applied the holding of the Court to laws prohibiting discrimination in housing, education, health care and credit.

President Biden issued an executive order protecting Americans against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity — a turning point in the fight for LGBTQIA+ equality under the law.

<https://t.co/fSuxT8dF8w>

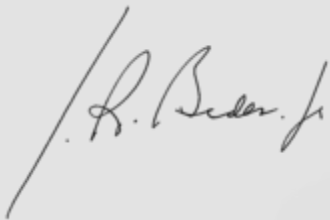
*“Transgender equality is the civil rights issue of our time.”*

—Joe Biden, January 25, 2020

## Arizona LGBTQIA+ Archives <sup>®</sup><sub>©</sub>

*“Together, we will work to defend and advance the human rights of all people, and we will not rest until equality, at home and around the world, is fully realized.”*

—Joe Biden, May 16, 2017



arizonalgbtqiarchives.org

