



**OPPO DUMP:  
VULNERABLE ARIZONA  
REPUBLICANS ON LGBTQ EQUALITY**

# ANTHONY KERN

In just two years, Anthony Kern used to his position as Chair of the House Rules Committee to kill 11 bills that would have protected and recognized the LGBTQ community in Arizona.

## They Said What?!

**[Audio] Kern: “Do you want LGBT rights to take over?”** [Anthony Kern, Grassroots Tea Party Activists Meeting, [12/11/19](#)]

**Phoenix New Times: “State Rep. Anthony Kern: ‘Do You Want LGBTQ Rights to Take Over?’”** [[12/12/19](#)]

**Press Release: Representative Cano Calls For Kern To Step Down As Rules Committee Chair.** [[12/13/19](#)]

## Legislative Action

Sponsored bills to:

- ✓ Ban gender-reaffirming surgery from AHCCCS. [[HB 2294](#)]
- ✓ Ban incarcerated people from received gender reaffirming surgery. [[HB 2293](#)]

Killed bills to:

- ✓ Ban conversion therapy for children. [[HB 2707](#)]
- ✓ Ban landlords from discriminating against LGBTQ tenants. [[HB 2716](#)]
- ✓ Ban employers from discriminating against LGBTQ employees. [[HB 2716](#)]
- ✓ Introduce LGBTQ-inclusive sex education topics. [[HB 2277](#)]
- ✓ Require health care providers inform patients if they will refuse to provide services based on religious beliefs. [[HB 2068](#)]
- ✓ Ban employment discrimination on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation. [[HB 2335](#)]
- ✓ Prohibit employment and housing discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. [[HB 2546](#)]
- ✓ Ensure death certificates reflect gender identity. [[HB 2074](#), [HB 2290](#)]
- ✓ Add a non-binary option to drivers licenses. [[HB 2075](#)]
- ✓ Allow trans and intersex Arizonans to change the sex on their birth certificate without undergoing surgery. [[HB 2867](#)]
- ✓ Killed a bill to allow Arizona voters to formally repeal Arizona’s same sex marriage ban. [[HCR 2026](#)]

Voted to:

- ✓ Keep the law banning sex education from positively portraying homosexuality and teach safe homosexual sex. [[SB 1346](#)]
- ✓ Ban trans students from competing in school sports with their gender. [[HB 2706](#)]
- ✓ Require people requesting a name change to undergo a background check. [[SB 1199](#)]

## Positions

Supported “protecting a parent’s right to seek professional counseling for their minor child with same-sex attraction or gender identity issues to help them reach their desired outcome.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#)]

Opposed adding sexual orientation, gender expression, and gender identity to nondiscrimination laws. [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2016](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Supported “prohibiting government from discriminating against an individual, organization, or small business based on their beliefs about marriage.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2016](#)]

Supported “protecting individuals and businesses from being required to provide services or use their artistic expression in a manner that violates their moral or religious beliefs.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Opposed “implementing policies to allow students and faculty to use the restroom, locker room, and shower room that aligns with their gender identity.” [Center Arizona for Policy Survey, [2016](#)]

Supported amending The U.S. Constitution to define marriage as “the union of one man and one woman.” [Arizona Catholic Conference Voter’s Guide, [2014](#)]

Opposed “granting unmarried domestic partners the same employee and health benefits as married couples.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Agreed that “Arizona’s voter-approved constitutional definition of marriage should be defended to the fullest extent legally possible.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

- Kern: “I support traditional marriage defined as one man and one woman.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

## Who’s Funding Them?

**November 2018: Kern Accepted \$1,000 From Koch Industries, Inc. Political Action Committee.** [Vote Kern 2018 House Campaign Finance Report, filed 12/31/19];

## SYLVIA ALLEN

Senator Allen has used her time in the Legislature and role as Chair of the Education Committee fighting against LGBTQ-positive and inclusive education for Arizonan children.

## They Said What?!

**[Audio] Allen: I can bring in experts from the pediatric association, from all kinds of medical fields that are going to tell you there are no 67 genders and they’re talking about different personality traits when they do that.** [Sylvia Allen, The Jeff Oravits Show, [1/10/20](#)]

## Legislative Action

Sponsored a bill to:

- ✓ Ban discussion of homosexuality in sex education. [[SB 1082](#)]

Killed bills to:

- ✓ Require textbooks include fair and respectful representations of the LGBTQ community. [[SB 1387](#)]
- ✓ Eliminate the law banning sex education from positively portraying homosexuality and teach safe homosexual sex. [[SB 1019](#)]

Voted to:

- ✓ Keep the law banning sex education from positively portraying homosexuality and teach safe homosexual sex. [[SB 1346](#)]
- ✓ Allow licensed professionals, including lawyers and counselors, to discriminate against LGBTQ clients. [[SB 1365](#)]
- ✓ Require people requesting a name change to undergo a background check. [[SB 1199](#)]

## Positions

Supported “protecting a parent’s right to seek professional counseling for their minor child with same-sex attraction or gender identity issues to help them reach their desired outcome.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#)]

Opposed adding sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender identity to nondiscrimination laws. [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2016](#)]

Supported “prohibiting government from discriminating against an individual, organization, or small business based on their beliefs about marriage.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2016](#)]

Opposed “implementing policies to allow students and faculty to use the restroom, locker room, and shower room that aligns with their gender identity.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2016](#)]

## JAY LAWRENCE

Representative Lawrence has repeatedly and vocally opposed trans equality in schools and has said he supports conversion therapy for LGBTQ children. He also supported protecting discriminatory businesses and backed a constitutional amendment outlawing marriage equality.

## They Said What?!

**[Audio] Lawrence: Let me explain this to everyone. First of all, in sports there are women’s sports, there are men’s sports. There are men, and this is not a homosexual issue, there are men who believe that they are women who have female characteristics and male characteristics but they are now being allowed, these men, who believe they are women are being allowed to compete in female sports. And in those places where they’re competing, they are winning. Of course they are!”** [Jay Lawrence Show, [4/05/20](#)]

## Legislative Actions

Co-sponsored a bill to:

- ✓ Ban trans students from competing in school sports with their gender. [[HB 2706](#)]

Voted to:

- ✓ Ban trans students from competing in school sports with their gender. [[HB 2706](#)]

## Positions

Supported “protecting a parent’s right to seek professional counseling for their minor child with same-sex attraction or gender identity issues to help them reach their desired outcome.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#)]

- Lawrence: “What I oppose is taking the child to anyone suggesting a gender identity change.” In response to a question about whether he supported a parent’s right to send their LGBTQ child to conversion therapy, Lawrence wrote that he opposed “taking the child to anyone suggesting a gender identity change.”[Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#)]

Lawrence: “I will introduce legislation opposing” policies that allow trans students and faculty to use the bathroom that matches their gender. [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2016](#)]

Opposed adding sexual orientation, gender expression and gender identity to nondiscrimination laws. [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2016](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Supported “protecting individuals and businesses from being required to provide services or use their artistic expression in a manner that violates their moral or religious beliefs.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Opposed “implementing policies to allow students and faculty to use the restroom, locker room, and shower room that aligns with their gender identity.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2016](#)]

Supported amending the U.S. Constitution to define marriage as “the union of one man and one woman.” [Arizona Catholic Conference Voter’s Guide, [2014](#)]

Opposed “granting unmarried domestic partners the same employee and health benefits as married couples.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Agreed that “Arizona’s voter-approved constitutional definition of marriage should be defended to the fullest extent legally possible.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

## Who’s Funding Them?

**July 2018: Lawrence Accepted \$5,000 From The Safeguarding American Liberties Morals & Opportunities Now PAC.** [Jay Lawrence for the House 18 Campaign Finance Report, filed 8/17/18] Error! Bookmark not defined.

## SHAWNNA BOLICK

Representative Bolick co-sponsored and voted for a bill banning young trans athletes from competing in school sports with their gender, opposed non-discrimination laws, and supported conversion therapy for LGBTQ children.

## Legislative Action

Co-sponsored a bill to:

- ✓ Ban trans students from competing in school sports with their gender. [[HB 2706](#)]

Voted to:

- ✓ Ban trans students from competing in school sports with their gender. [[HB 2706](#)]

## Positions

Supported “protecting a parent’s right to seek professional counseling for their minor child with same-sex attraction or gender identity issues to help them reach their desired outcome.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#)]

Supported “Protecting Individuals And Businesses From Being Required To Provide Services Or Use Their Artistic Expression In A Manner That Violates Their Moral Or Religious Beliefs.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Opposed adding sexual orientation, gender expression, and gender identity to nondiscrimination laws. [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Opposed “granting unmarried domestic partners the same employee and health benefits as married couples.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Agreed that “Arizona’s voter-approved constitutional definition of marriage should be defended to the fullest extent legally possible.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

## JEFF WENINGER

Representative Weninger co-sponsored and voted for a bill banning young trans athletes from competing in school sports with their gender, supported conversion therapy for LGBTQ children, and opposed protection LGBTQ Arizonans from discrimination.

### Legislative Action

Co-sponsored a bill to:

✓ Ban trans students from competing in school sports with their gender. [[HB 2706](#)]

Voted to:

✓ Ban trans students from competing in school sports with their gender. [[HB 2706](#)]

### Positions

Supported “protecting a parent’s right to seek professional counseling for their minor child with same-sex attraction or gender identity issues to help them reach their desired outcome.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#)]

Opposed adding sexual orientation, gender expression, and gender identity to nondiscrimination laws. [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2016](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Supported “prohibiting government from discriminating against an individual, organization, or small business based on their beliefs about marriage.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2016](#)]

Supported “protecting individuals and businesses from being required to provide services or use their artistic expression in a manner that violates their moral or religious beliefs.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Opposed “implementing policies to allow students and faculty to use the restroom, locker room, and shower room that aligns with their gender identity.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2016](#)]

Opposed “granting unmarried domestic partners the same employee and health benefits as married couples.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Agreed that “Arizona’s voter-approved constitutional definition of marriage should be defended to the fullest extent legally possible.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

## RICK GRAY

Senator Gray repeatedly voted to allow discrimination against LGBTQ Arizonans and has vocally opposed non-discrimination laws. Gray also supported dangerous conversion therapy for LGBTQ children and a constitutional amendment banning marriage equality.

### Legislative Action

Voted to:

- ✓ Allow businesses to discriminate against LGBTQ patrons. [[HB 2153](#), in committee; [SB 1062](#)]
- ✓ Allow discrimination against LGBTQ people based on religious beliefs. [[SB 1178](#)]

### Positions

Supported “protecting a parent’s right to seek professional counseling for their minor child with same-sex attraction or gender identity issues to help them reach their desired outcome.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#)]

Opposed adding sexual orientation, gender expression, and gender identity to nondiscrimination laws. [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2012](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Supported “protecting professionals from being required to provide services that violate their moral or religious beliefs.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2012](#)]

Supported “protecting individuals and businesses from being required to provide services or use their artistic expression in a manner that violates their moral or religious beliefs.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Supported amending the U.S. Constitution to define marriage as “the union of one man and one woman.” [Arizona Catholic Conference Voter’s Guide, [2014](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2012](#)]

Opposed “granting unmarried domestic partners the same employee and health benefits as married couples.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2012](#)]

Agreed that “Arizona’s voter-approved constitutional definition of marriage should be defended to the fullest extent legally possible.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

## J.D. MESNARD

Senator Mesnard has spent his time in the Legislature repeatedly voting against anti-discrimination protections for LGBTQ Arizonans. He has supported dangerous conversion therapy for LGBTQ children, anti-trans discrimination in schools, and a constitutional amendment banning marriage equality.

### Legislative Action

Voted to:

- ✓ Allow businesses to discriminate against LGBTQ patrons. [[SB 1062](#); [HB 2153](#), in committee]
- ✓ Allow discrimination against LGBTQ people based on religious beliefs. [[SB 1178](#)]
- ✓ Allow licensed professionals, including lawyers and counselors, to discriminate against LGBTQ clients. [[SB 1365](#)]

## Positions

Supported “protecting a parent’s right to seek professional counseling for their minor child with same-sex attraction or gender identity issues to help them reach their desired outcome.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#)]

Opposed adding sexual orientation, gender expression, and gender identity to nondiscrimination laws. [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2018](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2016](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2012](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Supported “prohibiting government from discriminating against an individual, organization, or small business based on their beliefs about marriage.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2016](#)]

Supported “protecting professionals from being required to provide services that violate their moral or religious beliefs.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2012](#)]

Supported “protecting individuals and businesses from being required to provide services or use their artistic expression in a manner that violates their moral or religious beliefs.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

Opposed “implementing policies to allow students and faculty to use the restroom, locker room, and shower room that aligns with their gender identity.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2016](#)]

Supported Amending The U.S. Constitution To Define Marriage As “The Union Of One Man And One Woman.” [Arizona Catholic Conference Voter’s Guide, [2014](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2012](#)]

Opposed “granting unmarried domestic partners the same employee and health benefits as married couples.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#); Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2012](#)]

Agreed that “Arizona’s voter-approved constitutional definition of marriage should be defended to the fullest extent legally possible.” [Center for Arizona Policy Survey, [2014](#)]

## Who’s Funding Them?

**October 2018: Mesnard Accepted \$1,000 From Koch Industries, Inc. Political Action Committee.** [Vote Mesnard Campaign Finance Report, filed 1/13/19]i

**May 2013: Mesnard Accepted \$100 From The American Legislative Exchange Council.** [Elect J.D. Mesnard Campaign Finance Report, filed 1/30/14]ii

## KATE BROPHY MCGEE

Senator Brophy McGee portrays herself as a moderate, but has supported legislation that allows discrimination against LGBTQ Arizonans.

## Legislative Action

Voted to:

- ✓ Allow licensed professionals, including lawyers and counselors, to discriminate against LGBTQ clients. [[SB.1365](#)]
- ✓ Require people requesting a name change to undergo a background check. [[SB.1199](#)]



## Positions

**2016: Brophy McGee Told The Arizona Catholic Conference She “Generally” Supported Their Stances, Which Included Opposition To Marriage Equality.** In a letter to the Arizona Catholic Conference, Kate Brophy McGee wrote, “Thank you and the Arizona Catholic Conference [ACC] for the invitation to respond to the 2016 Candidate Survey. In general, I support the policies espoused by the ACC.” The Arizona Catholic Conference’s 2016 survey asked candidates if they supported “amending the United States Constitution to define marriage as the union of one man and one woman.” [Kate Brophy McGee, response to Arizona Catholic Conference Candidate survey, [6/26/16](#); Arizona Catholic Conference Survey, [2016](#)]

## Who’s Funding Them?

**June 2018: Brophy McGee Accepted \$5,000 From The Safeguarding American Liberties Morals & Opportunities Now PAC.** [Kate Brophy McGee AZ Campaign Finance Report, filed 7/16/18]<sup>iii</sup>

**i Advocate: The Koch’s Funded ALEC, A Group That “Strongly Opposed LGBTQ Equality.”** According to the Advocate, “David and Charles Koch, two of four brothers, have been the primary leaders of Wichita, Kan.–based Koch Industries, a company they inherited from their father and expanded beyond its roots in oil refining to encompass consumer goods and more. They have used their considerable fortune to back conservative and libertarian causes and candidates, with the Times estimating they have spent at least \$100 million and possibly much more in this effort since the 1970s. [...] They also have funded the American Legislative Exchange Council, known by the acronym ALEC, a conservative group that drafts model legislation for states with the goals of cutting taxes, opposing gun restrictions, weakening labor unions, and repealing regulations on business. In addition, ALEC has drafted many laws criminalizing HIV exposure and, at least in its early years, strongly opposed LGBTQ equality. Recently it has teamed up with the anti-LGBTQ Alliance Defending Freedom to promote legislation that supposedly supports free speech on college campuses but would provide no protections for those who demonstrate against campus speakers, according to the Center for Media and Democracy.” [Advocate, [8/23/19](#)]

**ii Human Rights Campaign: “The Group Is Well Known For Their Far-Right Policies But We Now Know Their History Is Also Rooted In Demonizing LGBT Americans.”** According to the Human Rights Campaign, “ALEC is an organization with a long history of pushing harmful bills on legislatures across the country,” said Sarah Warbelow, Human Rights Campaign State Legislative Director. ‘The group is well known for their far-right policies but we now know their history is also rooted in demonizing LGBT Americans. There is a reason that ALEC has struggled in recent years – their vision is no longer one that resonates with mainstream Americans of either party.’ [Human Rights Campaign Press Release: “Far Right Organization Has Long Anti-Gay History,” [12/4/13](#)]

**iii Arizona Mirror: The SALMON PAC Was Run By Former Arizona Rep. Mat Salmon.** According to the Arizona Mirror, “Largest PAC contributions are from the Safeguarding American Liberties Morals & Opportunities Now PAC, which is run by former Congressman Matt Salmon (\$5,000), Arizona Leadership Fund (\$5,000) and UnitedHealth Group PAC (\$4,000). Most of Pratt's funding comes from PACs.” [Arizona Mirror, [10/1/18](#)] **Former Rep. Salmon Voted For The Defense of Marriage Act And A Ban On Gay Adoptions During His Time In The House Of Representatives.** According to The Washington Post, “A staunch social conservative, Salmon voted for the Defense of Marriage Act and for a ban on gay adoptions in Washington, D.C.” [The Washington Post, [4/1/13](#)] **The Washington Post Headline: “Rep. Matt Salmon: Gay Son Hasn't Changed My Views On Gay Marriage.”** [The Washington Post, [4/1/13](#)]