



ENGAGE



General Motors recently signed onto the Human Rights Campaign's [Business Coalition](#) for the Equality Act, the federal legislation which would "provide consistent and explicit non-discrimination protections for LGBTQ people across key areas of life, including employment, housing, credit, education, public spaces and services, federally funded programs, and jury service." The Human Rights Campaign is the largest national lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer civil rights organization.

So what does this all mean?

Well, right now, only 20 U.S. states and the District of Columbia expressly prohibit discrimination based on both sexual orientation and gender identity in employment, housing and public accommodations, meaning that 30 states (including Michigan, Texas, Georgia, and Arizona) allow an employer to fire someone for being LGBTQ, and allow discrimination against LGBTQ Americans in housing. This legislation would update our nation's civil rights laws to provide permanent non-discrimination protections on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

GM is focused on building a winning culture—one that provides opportunity and an environment that allows all employees to reach their highest potential. Supporting the Equality Act means we win together as one team and share the responsibility of helping GM shape the future of mobility.

GM Public Policy worked closely with key stakeholders, including GM PLUS (GM's employee resource group for LGBTQ and allied employees) and the Human Rights Campaign to help make this happen. Last week, GM PLUS chair Adam Bernard was in Washington to meet with Michigan legislators on the importance of this legislation. These meetings were very productive and show firsthand the positive impact employee advocates can have on elected officials and how they can help Public Policy achieve our goals.

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