



STATE INNOVATION EXCHANGE

April 27, 2023

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

Speaker Matt Regier  
Montana House of Representatives  
1301 East 6th Avenue, Helena, MT 59620  
[Matt.Regier@legmt.gov](mailto:Matt.Regier@legmt.gov)

Speaker Charles McCall  
Oklahoma House of Representatives  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Room 401 Oklahoma City, OK 73105  
[Charles.Mccall@okhouse.gov](mailto:Charles.Mccall@okhouse.gov)

Dear Speaker Regier and Speaker McCall,

We, the undersigned who proudly lead LGBTQ+ legislative caucuses and proudly serve as LGBTQ+ lawmakers across the country, stand in solidarity with Montana State Representative Zooey Zephyr and Oklahoma State Representative Mauree Turner, as they face censure for simply doing the work they were elected to do and defend the rights and dignity of transgender, non-binary, and intersex people.

As state legislatures across the country eviscerate healthcare access for transgender youth and adults, deny the right to education and individual self-expression, and undermine our essential freedoms, LGBTQ+ legislators and our accomplices are fighting back. While it may be uncomfortable for some lawmakers to be confronted with public outcry and forthright debate, that is the purpose of the legislative process and the freedom your constituents and duly elected representatives inherently have in your state capitols, and every state capitol in our nation.

As LGBTQ+ lawmakers, we refuse to be silenced. Rep. Zephyr's and Rep. Turner's censure undermines the representation of the tens of thousands of people who elected them to serve. As elected officials, we have the right to be heard, to advocate for our constituents, and to stand up for LGBTQ+ people and the freedoms of all of the residents in our states. Actions that strip lawmakers of their voice from their duly-elected positions undermine the people's will and represent a direct threat to our democracy everywhere.

From Montana to Oklahoma, courageous transgender and non-binary state lawmakers across the country are standing up for their constituents and defending our freedoms. We are protecting the right to bodily autonomy, championing healthcare access for all, and advocating every child has access to public education. Although you've undemocratically barred Rep. Zephyr and Rep. Turner you cannot silence us. We the undersigned, on behalf of our 300+ LGBTQ+ elected colleagues across the country, proudly stand in solidarity with Montana Rep. Zooey Zephyr and Oklahoma Rep. Mauree Turner.

Sincerely,



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**Arizona LGBTQ Legislative Caucus**

Representative Oscar De Los Santos, Co-Chair  
Representative Patty Contreras, Co-Chair

**California Legislative LGBTQ Caucus**

Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman, Chair  
Assemblyperson Christopher Ward, Vice Chair

**Colorado Democratic LGBTQ+ Caucus**

Representative Brianna Titone, Chair  
Representative Leslie Herod

**Connecticut**

Representative Raghieb Allie-Brennan  
Representative Jeff Currey

**Delaware LGBTQ+ Caucus**

Senator Marie Pinkney, Co-Chair

**Florida**

Senator Shevrin Jones  
Representative Michele Rayner-Goolsby

**Georgia**

Senator Kim Jackson  
Representative Sam Park  
Representative Park Cannon

**Illinois**

Representative Kelly Cassidy

**Kansas**

Representative Heather Meyer  
Representative Brandon Woodard

**Maryland**

Delegate Ashanti Martinez  
Delegate Gabriel Acevero

**Michigan Legislative LGBTQ+ Caucus**

Representative Laurie Pohutsky, Chair  
Senator Jeremy Moss, Co-Chair  
Representative Jason Hoskins

**Minnesota Queer Caucus**

Representative Leigh Finke, Chair  
Representative Brion Curran, Vice Chair  
Senator Erin Maye Quade

Senator D. Scott Dibble  
Senator Clare Oumou Verbeten  
Representative Sydney Z. Jordan  
Representative Liz Reyer  
Representative Heather Keeler  
Representative Athena Hollins

**Nevada LGBTQ+ Legislative Caucus**

Senator Dallas Harris, Chair  
Assemblyperson Sarah Peters, Vice Chair

**New York**

Senator Jabari Brisport  
Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal  
Assemblyperson Danny O'Donnell  
Assemblyperson Deborah J. Glick

**North Carolina**

Senator Lisa Grafstein  
Representative Deborah Butler  
Representative Allison Dahle  
Representative Vernetta Alston

**Pennsylvania LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus**

Representative Jessica Benham, Co-Chair  
Representative Malcolm Kenyatta, Co-Chair

**Rhode Island**

Senator Tiara Mack

**Virginia**

Senator Adam Ebbin  
Delegate Danica Roem  
Delegate Mark D. Sickles  
Delegate Dawn M. Adams

**Wisconsin Legislative LGBTQ+ Caucus**

Senator Mark Spreitzer, Chair  
Senator Tim Carpenter  
Assemblyperson Lee Snodgrass  
Representative Greta Neubauer  
Representative Marisabel Cabrera