Washington’s commitment to fairness, respect and equal treatment under the law make our state a great place to work, live, start a business, go to school, and raise a family.

There have been several efforts to repeal Washington’s existing 11-year old anti-discrimination protections which would enable businesses, schools, hotels, and other public accommodations to discriminate against transgender men and women by denying access to restrooms.

HB 1011 is one effort to take away these protections. Last year, the Legislature rejected six similar bills. We urge legislators to do the same this year.

DISCRIMINATION IS BAD FOR BUSINESS

> Rolling back our anti-discrimination protections opens up the doors to costly litigation against schools.

> If these protections were repealed, there would be unintended consequences on Washington's economy, driving away millions each year in conventions, tourism, and new business.

> More than 200 small and big businesses around the state, like Iron Brothers Construction and Microsoft, opposed past efforts like I-1515.

DISCRIMINATION DOES NOT MAKE US SAFER

> In Washington, voyeurism, assault, and indecent exposure are already illegal. Anyone who commits these crimes can and should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

> Sheriffs, law enforcement leaders, and victim advocacy groups oppose these discriminatory efforts because it will not make us safer, may encourage more harassment and privacy invasions and take police attention from the places where it is needed most.

> In Washington, and in the more than 200 cities and states with these same anti-discrimination protections, transgender people have been protected from unfair discrimination with no increase in public safety incidents as a result.
WASHINGTONIANS STAND AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

> Time and time again, Washingtonians have stood up against discrimination. Most recently, a broad coalition of more than 500 law enforcement, clergy, business leaders, violence prevention groups and others worked to oppose a repeal of our anti-discrimination protections for transgender people.

> More than 200 big and small businesses and labor unions from around the state quickly rallied to oppose a repeal of our anti-discrimination protections for transgender people. This included Amazon, WA State Labor Council, Microsoft, Group Health, Google, Facebook, Expedia, Vulcan, AT&T, Dow Chemical, WA State Labor Council, Washington Education Association, and many more.

> Editorial boards, including The Seattle Times, Everett Herald, The Olympian and Tacoma News Tribune urged opposition to efforts that would repeal our anti-discrimination protections for transgender people.

RISKS ALREADY EXPERIENCED BY THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY

A recent national survey\(^1\) of over 27,000 transgender people found:

> 77% who were open about being transgender or perceived as transgender in school experienced some form of mistreatment. 54% were verbally harassed, 24% were physically attacked, and 13% were sexually assaulted in K-12 because of being transgender.

> 59% avoided using a public restroom in the past year because they were afraid of confrontations or other problems they might experience.

> 47% were sexually assaulted at some point in their lifetime.

“I grew up in rural Mississippi where I had to hide my true identity for fear that I would be ostracized, labeled insane—or worse. I’ve now lived in Washington for 15 years and, as a transgender man, am now feeling more scared for my safety than I have in a really long time. **If HB 1011 advances, I could be thrown out of an establishment for trying to use the restroom. Suddenly, I’ll be planning my day from morning to night around when, where, and if I’ll be able to relieve myself. This isn’t just wrong, it’s downright scary.**”

JASON SCOTT
RESPIRATORY THERAPIST

The Washington Safety Alliance is a coalition of organizations and individuals across Washington state who have joined together to defend longstanding anti-discrimination laws, especially for the transgender community.

Please join us to defend our state’s anti-discrimination laws for our transgender family, friends and neighbors.

Learn more at wasafealliance.org

For questions, you can contact Jeremiah Allen: jeremiah@pridefoundation.org