

HB 347 / SB 66: Creating the “Florida Competitive Workforce Act”

***Workforce protection is needed for the
lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender population.***

What is the purpose of HB 347 / SB 66?

- ▶ The “Florida Competitive Workforce Act” will add sexual orientation and gender identity to the existing law making it illegal to discriminate for employment, housing, and public accommodations because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, or marital status.

Why is HB 347 / SB 66 necessary?

- ▶ Currently, the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community of 691,561 has no nondiscrimination protection.
- ▶ In a survey by the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Real Estate Professionals, 97% of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender respondents say it is important to live in a state with an LGBT anti-discrimination ordinance.
- ▶ Twelve counties and 33 cities and towns in Florida currently prohibit discrimination in employment based on sexual orientation and gender identity in both the private and public sector, with another dozen counties, cities and towns offering a part of those protections

How would HB 347 / SB 66 work?

- ▶ Under HB 347 / SB 66, sexual orientation and gender identity or expression are afforded the same protection as others.
- ▶ If this bill passes, individuals may not be discriminated against by public lodging and food service establishments, or with respect to education, housing, public accommodation, or employment based on the status of sexual orientation and gender identity or expression.
- ▶ The Florida Businesses for a Competitive Workforce Coalition contends that Florida’s economy will grow by attracting and retaining the best workers to the state through assurance of equal opportunity employment.

**HB 347 / SB66 has 65 co-sponsors in the House and Senate.
Support Florida’s lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender
population by asking for committee hearing on HB 347/ SB 66!**