



## Be a Safe Schools Ally!

**All students deserve an education that is free from bullying and harassment.**

Unfortunately, many states do not have comprehensive policies that protect all students from bullying and harassment. **But you can change that!**

### ***DID YOU KNOW...?***

- The **Safe Schools Improvement Act (H.R. 3132)** was introduced by Congresswoman Linda T. Sánchez in the U.S. House of Representatives to ensure that every school and school district has policies to prevent and respond to bullying and harassment.
- This bill would ensure that schools and districts prohibit bullying and harassment; provide training for educators; respond when bullying and harassment occur; and report on incidents of bullying and harassment in schools.
- The House of Representatives has included parts of this bill in the new No Child Left Behind Act, but more co-sponsors are needed to make sure that all essential categories of students will be protected.

### ***WHAT CAN YOU DO?***

#### **SIGN UP at STUDENTORGANIZING.ORG**

1. Go to <http://www.studentorganizing.org> and register to receive further information on how you can be a safe schools ally!

#### **CALL YOUR REPRESENTATIVE**

1. Call the House of Representatives switchboard at 202-225-3121, and ask for your Representative's office. (You can find your representative by logging on to <http://www.house.gov/writerep/>.)
2. Tell the staffer who answers that you live in the Representative's district.
3. Explain that you want your Representative to cosponsor legislation to prevent bullying and harassment:

#### **Facts**

- One in three American students is affected by bullying in schools, and this impacts their academic performance and safety.
- Only ten states protect all students from bullying with comprehensive policies
- Almost 30 national education, healthcare, civil rights, law enforcement, youth development, and other organizations support H.R. 3132.
- Bullying prevention legislation has received support from both Democrats and Republicans in the past two Congresses.
- Include a brief relevant personal story to illustrate the need for policies against bullying and harassment (these can be about bullying or harassment for any reason, not just sexual orientation or gender identity/expression).