

## HR 8809

### LOVE Act of 2020

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** International Affairs

**Introduced:** Nov 24, 2020

**Current Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. (Nov 24, 2020)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8809>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Castro, Joaquin [D-TX-20]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (19 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Nov 24, 2020
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Nov 24, 2020
Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1]	D · RI		Nov 24, 2020
Rep. Haaland, Debra A. [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Nov 24, 2020
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Nov 24, 2020
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Nov 24, 2020
Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Nov 24, 2020
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Dec 2, 2020
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Dec 2, 2020
Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5]	D · PA		Dec 2, 2020
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Dec 7, 2020
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Dec 10, 2020
Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]	D · TX		Dec 10, 2020
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		Dec 10, 2020
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Dec 16, 2020
Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]	D · NY		Dec 16, 2020
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Dec 17, 2020
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Dec 17, 2020
Rep. Kildee, Daniel T. [D-MI-5]	D · MI		Dec 18, 2020

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 24, 2020

## Subjects & Policy Tags

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### Policy Area:

International Affairs

### Related Bills

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No related bills are listed.

### Summary (as of Nov 24, 2020)

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#### **Lavender Offense Victim Exoneration Act of 2020 or the LOVE Act of 2020**

This bill offers a formal apology from Congress for encouraging policies at the Department of State such as the Lavender Scare, which resulted in the wrongful termination of at least 1,000 people for alleged homosexuality.

The State Department must (1) review all employee terminations that occurred as a consequence of the Lavender Scare to identify who was wrongfully terminated for their real or perceived sexual orientation, and (2) issue a public report on the findings.

The State Department shall establish an independent Reconciliation Board to contact any employee (or a family member of a deceased employee) improperly terminated during the Lavender Scare and offer to change the employee's record to reflect this finding. The board shall accept and review petitions from former employees who believe they were terminated due to sexual orientation.

The State Department shall establish a board of senior-level officials to address issues that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI) Foreign Service employees and their families face. The board shall report comments on or recommendations for improving State Department policies to prevent sexual orientation discrimination.

The State Department shall report on (1) countries that do not issue spousal visas for Foreign Service employee spouses due to sexual orientation, and (2) recommendations on how to address this.

### Actions Timeline

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- **Nov 24, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 24, 2020:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.