

## HR 8394

Lawrence v. Texas Codification Act of 2022

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

**Introduced:** Jul 15, 2022

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties. (Nov 1, 2022)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/8394>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, Alexandria [D-NY-14]

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

### Cosponsors

*No cosponsors are listed for this bill.*

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 1, 2022

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## **Lawrence v. Texas Codification Act of 2022**

This bill provides statutory authority for the right of individuals of the same sex to engage in private, consensual sexual conduct.

Specifically, the bill prohibits any state from enacting a law or regulation that infringes on any individual's right to enter into a consensual sexual relationship in the confines of their home and private life, including with respect to individuals of the same sex. (The Supreme Court held that state laws criminalizing private, consensual sexual relationships between individuals of the same sex were unconstitutional in *Lawrence v. Texas* in 2003.)

The bill allows the Department of Justice to bring a civil action for violations. It also establishes a private right of action through Section 1983 lawsuits (Section 1983 is a federal statute that allows individuals to sue state or local government actors for violations of constitutional rights).

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Nov 1, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.
- **Jul 15, 2022:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 15, 2022:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.