

## GABBARD HAD A HISTORY OF ANTI-LGBTQ BELIEFS

### Highlights:

- Tulsi Gabbard had a history of anti-gay beliefs, going back to her time in the Hawaii State Legislature.
  - In 2004 in the Hawaii State House, Gabbard advocated against legislation that would have given same-sex couples the opportunity for civil unions in Hawaii.
  - In 2004, Gabbard spoke out against legislation that would have targeted anti-gay bullying in schools.
- Tulsi Gabbard worked for her father's anti-gay organization, the Alliance For Traditional Marriage.
  - The Alliance For Traditional Marriage supported conversion therapy, and called homosexuality "unhealthy" and "abnormal."
- Tulsi Gabbard apologized for some of her past anti-gay activism after she announced her 2020 presidential campaign.
  - Gabbard said her middle-east deployment changed her views on gay rights. .
- Tulsi Gabbard continued to express anti-transgender sentiments and targeted transgender women.
  - Gabbard proposed legislation to block transgender women college athletes from participating in women's sports.
- Tulsi Gabbard said Florida's "Don't Say Gay" legislation did not go far enough to censor speech on sexual or gender identity in public schools.

## Gabbard Had A History Of Anti-Gay Beliefs, Dating Back To Her Time As A Hawaii State Legislator

### **2004: GABBARD ADVOCATED AGAINST LEGISLATION THAT WOULD HAVE GIVEN SAME-SEX COUPLES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR CIVIL UNIONS IN HAWAII**

**2004: Gabbard Was A Leading Opponent Against A Bill That Would Have Given Same-Sex Couples The Opportunity For Civil Unions In Hawaii.** According to the Honolulu Star-Advertiser, "A bill that would give gay couples the opportunity to receive the same rights and privileges as married couples through civil unions appears to be dead at the Legislature this year, despite more than three hours of impassioned testimony last night from both sides of the debate. [...] Opponents, led by Rep. Tulsi Gabbard Tamayo, D-42nd (Waipahu, Honouliuli, 'Ewa), also held signs in protest outside the third-floor committee room. 'The point is, they have brought this up for many years in a row,' Tamayo said." [Honolulu Star-Advertiser, 2/20/04]

**Gabbard Led A Protest Against A Bill That Would Have Legalized Civil Unions For Same-Sex Couples.** According to the New Yorker, "Six years later, Tulsi Gabbard led a protest against a bill that would have legalized civil unions for same-sex couples. That same year, in the Hawaii State House, she delivered a long, fierce speech against a proposed resolution meant to target anti-gay bullying in public schools. She objected to the idea of students being taught that homosexuality is 'normal and natural,' and worried that passing the resolution would have the effect of 'inviting homosexual-advocacy organizations into our schools to promote their agenda to our vulnerable youth.'" [New Yorker, 11/6/17]

**2004: Gabbard: "To Try To Act As If There Is A Difference Between 'Civil Unions' And Same-Sex Marriage Is Dishonest, Cowardly And Extremely Disrespectful To The People Of Hawaii."** According to CNN, "Shortly after Gabbard announced her presidential ambitions Friday, her testimony at a hearing opposing a civil unions bill in 2004 resurfaced. 'To try to act as if there is a difference between 'civil unions' and same-sex marriage is dishonest, cowardly and extremely disrespectful to the people of Hawaii,' Gabbard said at the time. 'As Democrats we should be representing the views of the people, not a small number of homosexual extremists.'" [CNN, [1/13/19](#)]

### **2004: GABBARD SPOKE OUT AGAINST LEGISLATION THAT TARGETED ANTI-GAY BULLYING**

**2004: Gabbard Delivered A Speech Against A Proposed Resolution Targeting Anti-Gay Bullying, And Objected To The Idea Of Students Being Taught That Being Gay Was “Normal And Natural.”** According to the New Yorker, “Six years later, Tulsi Gabbard led a protest against a bill that would have legalized civil unions for same-sex couples. That same year, in the Hawaii State House, she delivered a long, fierce speech against a proposed resolution meant to target anti-gay bullying in public schools. She objected to the idea of students being taught that homosexuality is ‘normal and natural,’ and worried that passing the resolution would have the effect of ‘inviting homosexual-advocacy organizations into our schools to promote their agenda to our vulnerable youth.’” [New Yorker, 11/6/17]

## **Gabbard Worked For The Alliance For Traditional Marriage, An Anti-Gay Organization**

### **GABBARD WORKED FOR THE ALLIANCE FOR TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE**

**Gabbard Worked For Her Father’s Anti-Gay Organization, The Alliance For Traditional Marriage.** According to NBC News, “Gabbard came under fire when CNN reported Sunday that she worked for her father’s anti-gay organization, the Alliance for Traditional Marriage, in the late '90s and early 2000s. In her video apology, Gabbard described her father as ‘activist who was fighting against gay rights’ and acknowledged the role both she and her dad played in fighting against same-sex marriage in Hawaii. ‘I grew up in socially conservative household where I was raised to believe that marriage should only be between a man and a woman,’ she explained. The Alliance for Traditional Marriage also supported so-called gay conversion therapy.” [NBC News, [1/17/19](#)]

### **Gabbard’s Father Ran The Alliance For Traditional Marriage**

**Gabbard’s Father Ran The Alliance For Traditional Marriage, A Political Action Committee Aimed At Opposing Pro-Gay Lawmakers And Legislation.** According to CNN, “Gabbard’s father ran The Alliance for Traditional Marriage, a political action committee aimed at opposing pro-gay lawmakers and legislation that organized and spent more than \$100,000 to pass an amendment in 1998 that gave the Hawaii state legislature power to ‘reserve marriage to opposite-sex couples.’ The amendment to the state’s constitution passed.” [CNN, [1/13/19](#)]

**Mike Gabbard, Father Of Tulsi Gabbard, Was A Prominent Anti-Gay Activist In Hawaii.** According to CNN, “Gabbard’s father Mike was a prominent anti-gay activist in Hawaii. He was also the director of Stop Promoting Homosexuality and also served on the steering committees of the National Campaign to Protect Marriage and the Hawaii-based coalition, Save Traditional Marriage. He also once hosted an anti-gay radio show, Let’s Talk Straight Hawaii.” [CNN, [1/13/19](#)]

### **THE ALLIANCE FOR TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE SUPPORTED CONVERSION THERAPY**

**The Alliance For Traditional Marriage Supported Conversion Therapy.** According to CNN, “A CNN KFile review of the organization’s website, which is archived on the Internet Archive’s Wayback Machine, uncovers the organization [The Alliance For Traditional Marriage] supported controversial gay conversion therapy, which treats homosexuality as a mental illness that can be fixed. The practice is opposed by the American Medical Association and the American Psychiatric Association and has been banned for use on minors in 14 states and D.C., including Hawaii in 2018.” [CNN, [1/13/19](#)]

### **THE ALLIANCE FOR TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE CALLED HOMOSEXUALITY “UNHEALTHY” AND “ABNORMAL”**

**The Alliance For Traditional Marriage Called Homosexuality “Unhealthy, Abnormal Behavior That Should Not Be Promoted Or Accepted In Society.”** According to CNN, “The Alliance for Traditional Marriage called homosexuality ‘unhealthy, abnormal behavior that should not be promoted or accepted in society.’” [CNN, [1/13/19](#)]

### **GABBARD TOUTED WORKING FOR HER FATHER’S ANTI-GAY ORGANIZATION**

**Gabbard Touted Working For Her Father’s Anti-Gay Organization, Which Mobilized To Pass A Measure Against Same-Sex Marriage In Hawaii And Promoted Conversion Therapy.** According to CNN, “Rep. Tulsi Gabbard in the early

2000s touted working for her father's anti-gay organization, which mobilized to pass a measure against same-sex marriage in Hawaii and promoted controversial conversion therapy." [CNN, [1/13/19](#)]

**At The Beginning Of Her Political Career, Gabbard Closely Aligned Herself With Her Father To Pass A Constitutional Amendment To Protect "Traditional Marriage."** According to CNN, "During her run for state legislature in 2002, Gabbard told the Honolulu Star-Bulletin, 'Working with my father, Mike Gabbard, and others to pass a constitutional amendment to protect traditional marriage, I learned that real leaders are willing to make personal sacrifices for the common good. I will bring that attitude of public service to the legislature.' The quote, which CNN's KFile found during a review of Gabbard's early career, shows how closely she aligned herself with her father's mission at the time." [CNN, [1/13/19](#)]

## **Gabbard Apologized For Some Of Her Past Anti-Gay Activism Days After She Announced Her 2020 Presidential Campaign**

### **JANUARY 17, 2019: GABBARD APOLOGIZED FOR PAST ANTI-LGBTQ VIEWS AFTER SHE ANNOUNCED SHE WOULD RUN FOR PRESIDENT**

**January 17, 2019: Gabbard Released A Video Apologizing For her Past Anti-LGBTQ Views After She Announced She Would Run For President.** According to NBC News, "Tulsi Gabbard, the Democratic congresswoman from Hawaii who last week announced she would run for president in 2020, released a video Thursday apologizing for her past anti-LGBTQ views. 'In my past, I said and believed things that were wrong, and worse, they were very hurtful to people in the LGBTQ community and their loved ones,' Gabbard stated in the nearly four-minute-long video." [NBC News, [1/17/19](#)]

**Gabbard Said She Regretted The Role She Played In LGBTQ Discrimination And Said She Would Continue To Fight For LGBTQ+ Equality.** According to POLITICO, "I know that LGBTQ+ people still struggle, are still facing discrimination, are still facing abuse and still fear that their hard-won rights are going to be taken away by people who hold views like I used to,' the Hawaii Democrat wrote online. 'I regret the role I played in causing such pain, and I remain committed to fighting for LGBTQ+ equality.'" [POLITICO, [1/17/19](#)]

### **Gabbard Said Her Middle-East Deployments Changed Her Views On Gay Rights**

**Gabbard Said Her Conservative Family And Upbringing Explained Her Anti-Gay Beliefs In The Early 2000s.** According to CNN, "Presidential hopeful Democratic Rep. Tulsi Gabbard sought to explain her shift away from advocating anti-gay policies in the early 2000s on Sunday, saying her time in the military caused her to 'go through some soul-searching.' 'I was raised in a very socially conservative home. My father is Catholic, he was a leading voice against gay marriage in Hawaii at that time. Again, I was very young, but these are the values and beliefs that I grew up around,' Gabbard told CNN's Dana Bash at a town hall in Texas." [CNN, [3/10/19](#)]

**Gabbard Said Her Political Views On Gay Rights Shifted When She Deployed To The Middle East And Served With Gay And Trans Service Members.** According to CNN, "Gabbard said her views shifted when she deployed to the Middle East, 'where I saw first-hand the negative impact of a government attempting to act as a moral arbiter for their people, dictating in the most personal ways how they must live their lives.' 'I also served with gay and lesbian and trans service members, and we became very good friends, and knew in the most deep and visceral way that I would give my life for any one of them. And I knew that they would do the same for me,' Gabbard said. Gabbard said, 'race or religion or orientation — these were things that didn't matter, because we were focused on our mission of serving.'" [CNN, [3/10/19](#)]

### **January 11, 2019: Gabbard Announced Her Campaign For President**

**January 11, 2019: Gabbard Announced Her Campaign For President.** According to CNN, "Rep. Tulsi Gabbard said Friday she will run for president in 2020. 'I have decided to run and will be making a formal announcement within the next week,' the Hawaii Democrat told CNN's Van Jones during an interview slated to air at 7 p.m. Saturday on CNN's 'The Van Jones Show.' Gabbard, an Iraq War veteran, currently serves on the House Foreign Affairs Committee. She is the first American Samoan and the first Hindu member of Congress." [CNN, [1/11/19](#)]

## **Gabbard Continued To Express Anti-Transgender Sentiments And Specifically Targeted Transgender Women**

### **GABBARD PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO BLOCK TRANSGENDER WOMEN COLLEGE ATHLETES FROM PARTICIPATING**

#### **Gabbard Sponsored Legislation To Prevent Transgender Athletes From Participating In Women's Collegiate Sports.**

According to the Associated Press, "U.S. Rep. Tulsi Gabbard of Hawaii has sponsored legislation that would prevent transgender athletes from participating in women's collegiate athletics. The legislation could halt federal funds to organizations allowing transgender or nonbinary athletes to participate in athletic programs that do not match their 'biological sex at birth,' The Hawaii Tribune-Herald reported Saturday. Transgender describes people whose gender identity does not match the sex they were identified as having at birth. Nonbinary people are those whose gender identity is not strictly male or female, which is not synonymous with transgender." [Associated Press, [12/14/20](#)]

**Gabbard Said Title IX Was Being Weakened By States Who Were Allowing Transgender Athletes To Compete With Cisgender Women Athletes.** According to the Associated Press, "Title IX is being weakened by some states who are misinterpreting Title IX, creating uncertainty, undue hardship and lost opportunities for female athletes,' Gabbard said in a statement." [Associated Press, [12/14/20](#)]

#### **Gabbard's Legislation Was Based On Title IX, Federal Civil Rights Legislation**

**Gabbard's Legislation Was Based On Title IX.** According to the Associated Press, "The legislation is based on Title IX, a 1972 federal civil rights law forbidding gender-based discrimination in schools receiving federal funds, and ensuring women's college athletics programs receive support equaling men's sports. Gabbard's bill, the Protect Women's Sports Act of 2020, says compliance with Title IX should be determined 'on the basis of biological sex as determined at birth by a physician.'" [Associated Press, [12/14/20](#)]

## **Gabbard Said Florida's "Don't Say Gay" Legislation Did Not Go Far Enough**

### **GABBARD SAID THE "DON'T SAY GAY" BILL DID NOT GO FAR ENOUGH**

**Gabbard Said The "Don't Say Gay" Bill Did Not Go Far Enough In Censoring Discussion Of Sexuality And Gender Identity In Public Schools.** According to Advocate, "Former U.S. Rep. Tulsi Gabbard posted a video message to social media saying the Florida 'don't say gay' bill signed into law by Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis last month doesn't go far enough in censoring the discussion of sexuality and gender identity in public schools. 'But as I read the legislation, I gotta tell you, I was shocked to learn that it only protects kids from kindergarten till third grade,' Gabbard said in her video message. 'Third grade? What about 12th grade or not at all?'" [Advocate, [4/5/22](#)]

**Gabbard Expressed Strong Support For The "Don't Say Gay" Law While Condemning "Indoctrinating Woke Sexual Values In Our Schools."** According to Advocate, "The former U.S. Representative from Hawaii and candidate for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination expressed strong support for the new law, while also disparaging what she called 'indoctrinating woke sexual values in our schools' and characterized students as 'a captive audience' required to attend by law." [Advocate, [4/5/22](#)]