

BRIDGET BADE ON LGBTQ RIGHTS

Highlights:

- As a member of student government, Bridget Bade was named in a lawsuit alleging discrimination against LGBTQ students.

Bade Failed To Advocate For The LGBTQ Community As A Student Leader

AS A MEMBER OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT, BADE WAS NAMED IN A LAWSUIT ALLEGING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST LGBTQ STUDENTS

After The Student Government At Arizona State University Refused To Fund The Gay And Lesbian Student Organization, The Organization Sued Alleging Violations Of The First And Fourteenth Amendments. According to Bade's Questions For The Record (QFRs) for her nomination to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, "According to publicly available filings, you were a named defendant in a 1987 lawsuit brought by the lesbian and gay student organization at Arizona State University (ASU). That student organization alleged that it was denied funding by the student government 'because of the perceived sexual orientation of [the organization's] members and because the subject matter of its educational programming often deals with issues related to sexual orientation.' The complaint alleged that ASU, its administration, and the student government violated the First and Fourteenth Amendments by denying funding to student groups that they deemed 'controversial,' thereby effectively discriminating against groups based on the content of their speech." [Bade QFRs – nomination to the ninth court of appeals, [10/31/18](#)]

The Lawsuit Alleged That As Executive Vice President Of Student Government, Bade Was Asked To Reopen Appropriations For The Group And Was Advised That Denying The Funding Violated The Gay And Lesbian Students' Rights. According to Bade's Questions For The Record (QFRs) for her nomination to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, "You were the Executive Vice President of the student government at the time. Although you did not serve in the student senate, which passed the funding bills that excluded the gay and lesbian student group, the lawsuit alleged that you approved one or more of these exclusionary funding bills. Further, an affidavit appended to the complaint filed in the case alleged that ASU's Vice President for Student Affairs asked you and the student government's other executive officers 'to reopen the appropriations process and was informed by [you] that such action would be impossible.' You also later received a memo from the Vice President for Student Affairs conveying advice from ASU's General Counsel that denying funding to the lesbian and gay student organization was unconstitutional and asking the student government to reconsider the denial of funding." [Bade QFRs – nomination to the ninth court of appeals, [10/31/18](#)]

- **Bade Denied Responsibility For The Exclusionary Funding.** According to Bade's Questions For The Record (QFRs) for her nomination to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, "The question states that I 'approved one or more of these exclusionary funding bills.' That is not an accurate description of my role in undergraduate student government. As vice president of the student body, I served as chair of the student senate. I did not have authority or responsibility for approving or denying funding bills, or any other bills the student senate passed. Only the student body president had the authority to sign or veto bills from the student senate. Therefore, I did not play any role in reviewing bills from the student senate." [Bade QFRs – nomination to the ninth court of appeals, [10/31/18](#)]