

Vicente Gonzalez wants to use taxpayer dollars for sex change operations on minors.

Gonzalez Voted Against A National Defense Authorization Act Amendment Prohibiting TRICARE From Covering Transgender Procedures

On June 13, 2024, Gonzalez Voted Against An Amendment Prohibiting TRICARE From Covering Transgender Procedures. “Rosendale, R-Mont., amendment no. 52 that would prohibit TRICARE from covering, and the Defense Department from furnishing, gender transition surgeries and gender hormone treatments for individuals who identify as transgender.” (H.R. 8070, Amendment 52, [Roll Call #262](#), Adopted 213-206, R 212-1, D 1-205, Gonzalez Voted Nay; 6/13/24; [CQ Summary](#), Accessed 7/2/24)

Gonzalez Voted Against A National Defense Authorization Act Amendment Prohibiting Gender Transition Procedures

On June 13, 2024, Gonzalez Voted Against An Amendment That Would Prohibit Using The Exceptional Family Medical Program For Gender Transition Procedures. “Norman, R-S.C., amendment no. 53 that would prohibit the provision of gender transition procedures, including surgery or medication, through the Exceptional Family Medical Program.” (H.R. 8070, Amendment No. 53, [Roll Call #275](#), Adopted 218-205, R 217-1, D 1-204, Gonzalez Voted Nay; 6/13/24, [CQ Summary](#), Accessed 7/2/24)

- **According To The Congressional Equality Caucus, Norman’s Amendment Would Prohibit The Exceptional Family Member Program From Providing Referrals For “Gender Transition Procedures,” Including Surgeries—for Servicemembers’ Dependent Minor Children.** “Norman #53 would prohibit the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) from covering or providing referrals for ‘gender transition procedures’—including puberty blockers, hormone therapy, and surgeries—for servicemembers’ dependent minor children. The amendment would further prohibit servicemembers from being reassigned to a different duty station via EFMP in order to provide their dependents with gender-affirming care. (Roll Call Vote #275)” (Congressional Equality Caucus, “Equality Caucus Condemns Anti-LGBTQI+ Riders In National Defense Authorization Act,” [Press Release](#), 6/14/24)

Gonzalez Voted Against A NDAA Amendment That Would Prohibit Gender Transition Procedures Through The Exceptional Family Member Program For Military Minor Family Members, Including Surgery Or Medication

On July 13, 2023, Gonzalez Voted Against A NDAA Amendment “That Would Prohibit Gender Transition Procedures Through The Exceptional Family Member Program For Military Minor Family Members, Including Surgery Or Medication.” “Norman, R-S.C., amendment no. 20 that would prohibit gender transition procedures through the Exceptional Family Member Program for military minor family members, including surgery or medication.” (H.R. 2670 Amendment No. 20, [Roll Call Vote #302](#); Adopted 222-210; R 221-1; D 1-209; 7/13/23, Gonzalez Voted Nay; [CQ Summary](#), Accessed 8/1/23)

- **Axios Headline: “Fight Over Gender-Affirming Care Moves To HHS Spending Bill”** (Maya Goldman, “Fight Over Gender-Affirming Care Moves To HHS Spending Bill,” [Axios](#), 7/17/23)
- **“Taxpayer Funding Of Hormone Therapies And Gender-Affirming Surgeries Would Be Barred Under House Republicans’ Fiscal 2024 Spending Bill Covering The Federal Health Department ...”** “The congressional appropriations process is shaping up to be the next battleground over gender-affirming care. Driving the news: Taxpayer funding of hormone therapies and gender-affirming surgeries would be barred under House Republicans’ fiscal 2024 spending bill covering the federal health department, which is moving through Congress.” (Maya Goldman, “Fight Over Gender-Affirming Care Moves To HHS Spending Bill,” [Axios](#), 7/17/23)
- **“The U.S. Military Is Quietly Making Accommodations For Military Families With Children Or Dependents Seeking Gender Transition Help Through A Little-Known Program Initially Meant To Assist Families With Special Needs Members.”** (Micaela Burrow, “The Military Is Quietly Using A Little-Known Program To Enable Child Sex Changes,” [Daily Caller](#), 8/1/23)

- **“Through The Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP), The Military Has Allowed Special Assignments For Servicemembers So Their Dependents Can Access Gender Transition Services, And Could Take Additional Steps To Facilitate Transition ...”** “The U.S. military is quietly making accommodations for military families with children or dependents seeking gender transition help through a little-known program initially meant to assist families with special needs members. Through the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP), the military has allowed special assignments for servicemembers so their dependents can access gender transition services, and could take additional steps to facilitate transition, according to media reports, Department of Defense (DOD) statements and the policies themselves. Current DOD guidance leaves open the possibility servicemembers with gender dysphoric dependents could be eligible for exceptions to policy under the EFMP, but there is a provision in the House’s draft defense bill that could make it illegal.” (Micaela Burrow, “The Military Is Quietly Using A Little-Known Program To Enable Child Sex Changes,” [Daily Caller](#), 8/1/23)

On July 13, 2023, The Chair Of The Congressional Equality Caucus Declared The Amendments Passed In The NDAA Bill “Cannot Stand, And My Colleagues And I Will Use Every Tool To Get Them Removed During Conference.” “Today, the Congressional Equality Caucus released the following statement in response to the anti-equality amendments voted on during this year’s National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) bill debate. ‘Extreme MAGA Republicans continued their relentless attacks on LGBTQ+ people today by using the National Defense Authorization Act to push their anti-equality agenda,’ said Equality Caucus Chair Mark Pocan (WI-02). ‘They showed their complete disregard for our LGBTQ+ servicemembers by adopting amendments that strip medically-necessary care from transgender servicemembers and their families, censor LGBTQ+ servicemembers by prohibiting the display of Pride flags, and ban books that include transgender people or discuss gender identity. These riders cannot stand, and my colleagues and I will use every tool to get them removed during conference.’” (Congressional Equality Caucus, “Equality Caucus Responds to Adoption of Anti-LGBTQ+ Amendments to NDAA,” [Press Release](#), 7/13/23)

Gonzalez Is A Member Of The Congressional Equality Caucus And Has Received Contributions From Equality PAC

Gonzalez Is A Member Of The Congressional Equality Caucus. (“About The CEC,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed 3/28/24)



(“About The CEC,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed 3/28/24)

- **The Congressional Equality Caucus Serves As A “Resource” For Members Of Congress And Their Staff Regarding LGBT Issues On The Federal Level.** “The Congressional Equality Caucus serves as a resource for Members of Congress, their staff, and the public on LGBTQI+ issues at the federal level. The Equality Caucus works toward the extension of equal rights, the repeal of discriminatory laws, the elimination of hate-motivated violence, and the improved health and well-being for all regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or sex characteristics (including intersex traits).” (“Mission,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed 3/28/24)

Since 2023, Vicente Gonzalez For Congress Has Received At Least \$6,500 From Equality PAC. ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 1/13/26)

Date	Contributor	Amount	Recipient
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10/11/24	Equality PAC	\$1,500.00	Vicente Gonzalez For Congress
9/11/24	Equality PAC	\$3,500.00	Vicente Gonzalez For Congress
12/15/23	Equality PAC	\$1,500.00	Vicente Gonzalez For Congress

([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 1/13/26)

- Equality PAC Is The Political Arm Of The Congressional Equality Caucus And Helps Elect Openly LGBTQ Individuals And Strong LGBTQ Allies To Congress Who Are Committed To Passing The Equality Act.** “Equality PAC is the political arm of the Congressional Equality Caucus and is dedicated to the full legal and societal equality for LGBTQ Americans. All funds raised into Equality PAC are spent supporting and electing openly LGBTQ individuals and strong LGBTQ allies to the United States Congress who are committed to passing the Equality Act – the comprehensive LGBTQ civil rights bill that would make discrimination against LGBTQ persons in housing, employment, and financing opportunities illegal; addressing LGBTQ Americans’ daily struggles and fears of what could happen to them or what they could lose simply because of who they are and who they love; and to ensuring full civil rights and protections for all LGBTQ Americans.” (“The Equality PAC Mission,” [Equality PAC](#), Accessed 3/28/24)

Gonzalez Has Historically Supported The Equality Act

On June 21, 2023 In The 118th Congress, Gonzalez Cosponsored H.R. 15, The Equality Act. (Cosponsors, [H.R. 15](#), Introduced 6/21/23)

Cosponsor	Date Cosponsored
Rep. Alired, Colin Z. [D-TX-32]*	06/21/2023
Rep. Casar, Greg [D-TX-35]*	06/21/2023
Rep. Castro, Joaquin [D-TX-20]*	06/21/2023
Rep. Crockett, Jasmine [D-TX-30]*	06/21/2023
Rep. Cuellar, Henry [D-TX-28]*	06/21/2023
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-37]*	06/21/2023
Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]*	06/21/2023
Rep. Fletcher, Lizzie [D-TX-7]*	06/21/2023
Rep. Garcia, Sylvia R. [D-TX-29]*	06/21/2023
Rep. Gonzalez, Vicente [D-TX-34]*	06/21/2023

(Cosponsors, [H.R. 15](#), Introduced 6/21/23)

On February 25, 2021, Gonzalez Voted To Pass H.R. 5, The Equality Act. (H.R. 5, [Roll Call Vote #39](#), Passed 224-206: R 3-206, D 221-0, 2/25/21, Gonzalez Voted Yea)

- On February 25, 2021, Gonzalez Voted To Table A Motion To Reconsider On H.R., The Equality Act.** (H.R. 5, [Roll Call Vote #40](#), Table Motion To Reconsider Passed 211-195: R 0-195, D 211-0, 2/25/21, Gonzalez Voted Yea)

On February 22, 2021 In The 117th Congress, Gonzalez Cosponsored H.R. 5, The Equality Act. (Cosponsors, [H.R. 5](#), Introduced 2/18/21)

Cosponsor	Date Cosponsored
Rep. Allred, Colin Z. [D-TX-32]*	02/18/2021
Rep. Castro, Joaquin [D-TX-20]*	02/18/2021
Rep. Cuellar, Henry [D-TX-28]*	02/18/2021
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-35]*	02/18/2021
Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]*	02/18/2021
Rep. Fletcher, Lizzie [D-TX-7]*	02/18/2021
Rep. Garcia, Sylvia R. [D-TX-29]*	02/18/2021
Rep. Green, Al [D-TX-9]*	02/18/2021
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]*	02/18/2021
Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]*	02/18/2021
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]*	02/18/2021
Rep. Vela, Filemon [D-TX-34]*	02/18/2021
Rep. Gonzalez, Vicente [D-TX-15]	02/22/2021

(Cosponsors, [H.R. 5](#), Introduced 2/18/21)

On March 13, 2019 In The 116th Congress, Gonzalez Cosponsored H.R. 5, The Equality Act. (Cosponsors, [H.R. 5](#), Introduced 3/13/19)

Cosponsor	Date Cosponsored
Rep. Allred, Colin Z. [D-TX-32]*	03/13/2019
Rep. Castro, Joaquin [D-TX-20]*	03/13/2019
Rep. Cuellar, Henry [D-TX-28]*	03/13/2019
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-35]*	03/13/2019
Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]*	03/13/2019
Rep. Fletcher, Lizzie [D-TX-7]*	03/13/2019
Rep. Garcia, Sylvia R. [D-TX-29]*	03/13/2019
Rep. Gonzalez, Vicente [D-TX-15]*	03/13/2019

(Cosponsors, [H.R. 5](#), Introduced 3/13/19)

On May 17, 2019, Vicente Gonzalez Voted To Pass H.R. 5, The Equality Act. (H.R. 5, [Roll Call #217](#), Passed 236-173; R 8-173, D 228-0, Gonzalez Voted Aye, 5/17/19)

On May 2, 2017 In The 115th Congress, Gonzalez Cosponsored H.R. 2282, The Equality Act. (Cosponsors, [H.R. 2282](#), Introduced 5/2/17)

Cosponsor	Date Cosponsored
Rep. Castro, Joaquin [D-TX-20]*	05/02/2017
Rep. O'Rourke, Beto [D-TX-16]*	05/02/2017
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]*	05/02/2017
Rep. Gonzalez, Vicente [D-TX-15]*	05/02/2017

(Cosponsors, [H.R. 2282](#), Introduced 5/2/17)

On The Issues

GENDER AFFIRMING CARE

The Congressional Equality Caucus And Equality PAC Support “Gender Affirming Care” For Minors, Claiming It Is “Essential” And “Well Researched”

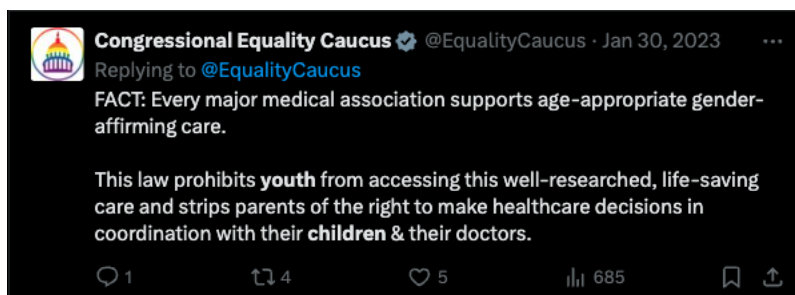
The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports “Gender-Affirming Care” For “Young People.” “House Republicans have focused on restricting access to gender-affirming care this Congress—for both young people and adults. In the first House-passed National Defense Authorization Act, Republicans adopted two amendments to restrict access to gender affirming care for transgender servicemembers and their families. In addition, the majority of Republican appropriations bills included language prohibiting funding from being used to provide gender-affirming care.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, “Obsessed: The House Republicans’ Relentless Attacks Against The LGBTQI+ Community In 2023,” [Report](#), February 24)

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports “Gender-Affirming Care,” Claiming It Is “Lifesaving” And “Essential” Care. “Last week, @HRC released a report detailing the impacts of gender-affirming care bans, including how 1 in 3 LGBTQ+ adults would move or have already moved from a state that bans this care. We must continue to defend this lifesaving & essential care.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 8/23/23)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 8/23/23)

The Congressional Equality Caucus Claimed That “Gender-Affirming Care” Was “Well-Researched, Life-Saving Care.” “FACT: Every major medical association supports age-appropriate gender-affirming care. This law prohibits youth from accessing this well-researched, life-saving care and strips parents of the right to make healthcare decisions in coordination with their children & their doctors.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 1/30/23)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 1/30/23)

The Equality PAC Supports “Gender-Affirming Health Care” For Kids. “Making sure our kids get access to proper medical care is critical to their health in the long-term. Gender-affirming health care should be left to families and doctors, not politicians.” (Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 1/19/24)



(Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 1/19/24)

The Congressional Equality Caucus And Equality PAC Support Hormone Therapy And Drug Treatments For “Gender Affirming Care” For Trans Youth

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports “Gender-Affirming Care,” Including “Hormone Therapy” For Trans And Non-Binary Youth. “Infuriating. Gender-affirming care, including hormone therapy, is widely-accepted best practice medical care and improves mental health outcomes for trans and non-binary youth. Trans youth are not political pawns - these attacks must stop. 🏳️‍🌈” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 3/8/22)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 3/8/22)

The Equality PAC Opposed The Missouri Attorney General Calling For The Halting To Drug Care For Trans Youth. “The government has no place in someone's doctor's office, and that applies to health care for trans youth as well. Trans people just want to exist. Let them.” (Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 2/14/23)



(Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 2/14/23)

“Gender-Affirming Care” Includes Medical Care, Including Puberty Blockers And “Hormone Therapy” And In Rare Instances Can Include “Gender-Affirming Surgeries” For Minors, Including “Top Surgery” To Make Changes To The Chest And “Bottom Surgery” To Make Changes To The Genitals

According To The Human Rights Campaign, “Gender-Affirming Care” Includes Medical Care. “Gender-affirming care, sometimes referred to as transition-related care, is life-saving healthcare for transgender people of all ages. It is not a single category of services but instead is a range of services, including mental health care, medical care, and social services. At all ages, clear, well-established, evidence-based standards of care exist for who can access what form of gender affirming care, and when they are eligible to receive it.” (“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed 3/30/24)

On The Human Rights Campaign’s Resource On “Gender-Affirming Care” They List Puberty Blockers, Which Delay Puberty, As A Form Of Such Care. (“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed 3/30/24)

What are puberty blockers? Why are they used? Are they safe?

“Puberty blockers” (or simply “blockers”) are a type of medication which can temporarily [pause puberty](#) and are fully reversible.

For transgender and non-binary youth who are aware of their gender at a young age, going through puberty can [cause intense distress and dysphoria](#), as it leads their body to develop into a gender that is not theirs — including in ways that are irreversible, or only reversible with surgery. For example, teenage transgender boys who do not have access to blockers will have to go through a puberty that includes growing breasts and later in life will require surgery.

(“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed 3/30/24)

On The Human Rights Campaign’s Resource On “Gender-Affirming Care” They List Surgeries Including “Top Surgery” To Make Changes To The Chest And “Bottom Surgery” To Make Changes To The Genitals. “There is no single gender-affirming surgery — nor does a person have to have any surgery, or a specific surgery, to be transgender. Gender-affirming surgery includes a wide range of procedures such as plastic surgery to change features in the face to be more typically masculine or feminine, ‘top surgery’ to make changes to the chest or torso or ‘bottom surgery’ to make changes to genitals.” (“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed 3/30/24)

The Human Rights Campaign Notes That Transgender And Non-Binary Individuals Do Not Typically Have “Gender-Affirming Surgery” Before 18, Though There Have Been Exceptions Made For 16 And 17 Year Old’s. “Transgender and non-binary people typically do not have gender-affirming surgeries before the age of 18. In some rare exceptions, 16 or 17 year-olds have received gender-affirming surgeries in order to reduce the impacts of significant gender dysphoria, including anxiety, depression, and suicidality. However, this is limited to those for whom the surgery is deemed clinically necessary after discussions with both their parents and doctors, and who have been consistent and persistent in their gender identity for years, have been taking gender-affirming hormones for some time, who have undergone informed consent discussions and have

approvals from both their parents and doctors, and who otherwise meet standards of care criteria (such as those laid out by WPATH).” (“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed 3/30/24)

According To The AAMC, “Gender-Affirming Care” Includes Medical Interventions.

“Gender-affirming care, as defined by the World Health Organization, encompasses a range of social, psychological, behavioral, and medical interventions ‘designed to support and affirm an individual’s gender identity’ when it conflicts with the gender they were assigned at birth. The interventions help transgender people align various aspects of their lives — emotional, interpersonal, and biological — with their gender identity. As noted by the American Psychiatric Association (APA), that identity can run anywhere along a continuum that includes man, woman, a combination of those, neither of those, and fluid.” (Patrick Boyle, “What Is Gender-Affirming Care? Your Questions Answered,” [AAMC](#), 4/12/22)

According To The AAMC, Interventions For Children Include “Hormone Therapy,” Whereas Surgeries Are “Rarely” Provided To People Under 18. “The interventions fall along a continuum as well, from counseling to changes in social expression to medications (such as hormone therapy). For children in particular, the timing of the interventions is based on several factors, including cognitive and physical development as well as parental consent. Surgery, including to reduce a person’s Adam’s Apple, or to align their chest or genitalia with their gender identity, is rarely provided to people under 18.” (Patrick Boyle, “What Is Gender-Affirming Care? Your Questions Answered,” [AAMC](#), 4/12/22)

In June 2025, Equality PAC Voiced Their Support For Allowing Taxpayer Dollars To Fund Transgender Health Care For Minors Of Military Personnel. “Sections 8138 & 8145 ban trans peoples’ access to medically-necessary care. Simply put, the GOP wants to make private medical decisions for our servicemembers and their families. It’s beyond despicable. (1/3)” (@EqualityCaucus, [Twitter](#), 6/12/25)

In December 2025, The Congressional Equality Caucus Criticized A Bill That Banned Medicaid From Covering Gender Affirming Care For Minors. “After the House of Representatives passed a bill to prohibit Medicaid from covering the cost of medically-necessary healthcare for young transgender people, Congressional Equality Caucus Chair Rep. Mark Takano (CA-39) released the following statement: ‘As millions of Americans lose health insurance because of the Republican health care crisis, the Republican majority in Congress decided it was more important to rip away medical care from families with transgender children and interfere with families’ private medical decisions,’ said Rep. Mark Takano, Chair of the Congressional Equality Caucus. ‘No parent should ever have to worry that their child will not be able to access medically-necessary healthcare because of politicians in D.C. I urge my Democratic colleagues in the Senate to block this cruel bill so families with transgender children can make medical decisions without government interference.’” (Congressional Equality Caucus, “CEC Condemns Passage Of Medicaid Coverage Ban For Trans Youths’ Healthcare,” [Press Release](#), 12/18/25)