



Jim Himes is a strong supporter of LGBT rights and equal privileges. These are just a few of the ways in which Jim has supported the LGBT community in our nation's capital.

Respect for Marriage Act, Original Co-Sponsor: As a strong supporter of full marriage equality for LGBT Americans, Jim Himes signed the bill to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and restore the rights of all lawfully married couples – including same-sex couples – to receive the benefits of marriage under federal law regardless of the state of residence.

Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act (Matthew Shepard Act), signed into law 10/2009: As an advocate for hate crime prevention and victim protection, Jim Himes saw that the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act was signed into federal law – focusing on enhancing the resources of the state and local law enforcement to prevent and prosecute hate crimes.

Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), Original Co-Sponsor: As a strong supporter of workplace equality for LGBT Americans, Jim Himes signed the bill to extend existing federal employment discrimination protections based race, religion, sex, national origin, age and disability to also include sexual orientation and gender identity

Military Readiness Enhancement Act, Co-Sponsor: As a strong believer in the equal treatment of LGBT Americans in our nation's military service, Jim Himes signed the bill to repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell"

Domestic Partnership Benefits and Obligations Act, Co-Sponsor: As an advocate for equal spousal and partner benefits for LGBT Americans, Jim Himes signed the bill to provide domestic partnership benefits to all federal civilian employees on the same basis as spousal benefits including applicable retirement programs, compensation for work injuries and life and health insurance benefits

Tax Equity for Health Plan Beneficiaries Act, Co-Sponsor: As a strong believer in equal health care spousal and partner benefits for LGBT Americans, Jim Himes signed the bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code to exclude from income the value of employer-provided insurance premiums and benefits received by employees for coverage of an employee's spouse and dependents, including domestic partners or other persons who qualify as 'eligible beneficiaries'