

STAND UP TO BULLYING FROM #DAY1

Hello Upstander,

Today I am traveling to Washington, D.C. to advocate for the Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act of 2019 in honor of my son Tyler. This bill requires colleges and universities that receive federal aid to establish policies to prohibit harassment. It also creates a Department of Education grant that will support campus anti-harassment programs, including prevention, counseling, and training. This important bill would, for the first time in federal legislation, recognize cyberbullying as harassment via electronic communication.

A 2014 study suggests that one in five college students are victims of harassment by way of cyberbullying. Compared to their peers, LGBTQ students are nearly twice as likely as their peers to experience harassment, which is very likely to be based on their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Read the House and Senate versions of the Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.

The Tyler Clementi Foundation is grateful to Senators Baldwin and Murray, as well as Congressman Pocan who have had the courage to take a stand against bullying by introducing this Act. If passed, this bill will help colleges and universities create more welcoming and safe spaces for LGBTQ individuals. I hope you can all agree that anti-bullying and LGBTQ work deserves a bigger place on the national stage. Currently, the bill has 92 co-sponsors in the House and 24 in the Senate.

What can you do to help? Find out if your Members of Congress are signed on to this bill here and here. If not, encourage them to support this very important piece of legislation. You can also post this link to social media to share the bill with your community. As always, we encourage you to sign our #Upstander pledge. And use our #Day 1 tool kit to create safe spaces for your community. Please also consider sharing your Upstander story with us as well! Thank you for your faithful support! Jane Clementi

Together, we can end bullying in all its forms.

Warmly,



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The Tyler Clementi Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to end online and offline bullying in schools, workplaces, and faith communities.



