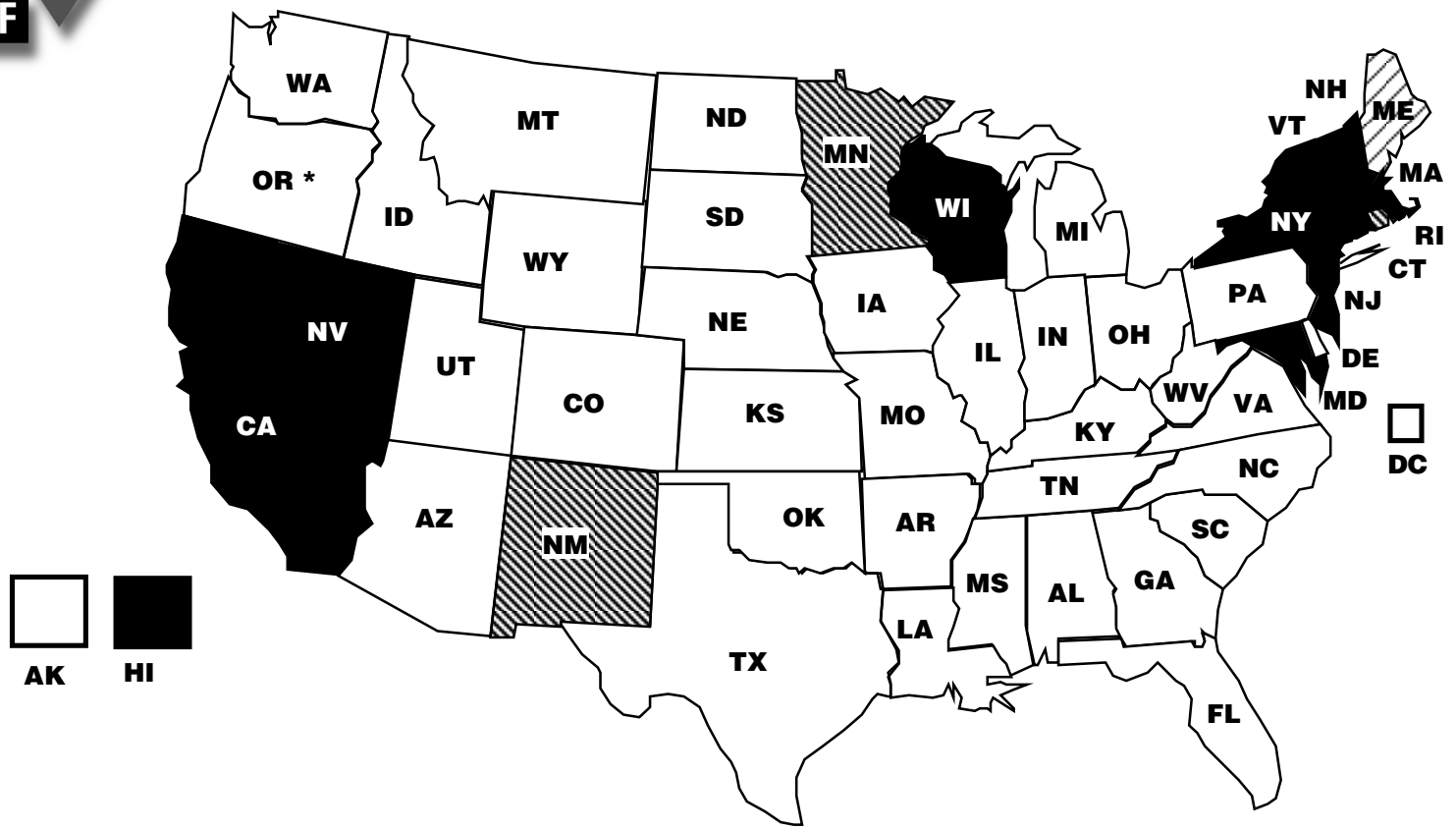
National Gay and Lesbian Task Force

GLBT Civil Rights Laws in the U.S.

(This information has required no update since December 2002)



Laws banning discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (3 states)
Minnesota (1993); Rhode Island (2001); New Mexico (2003)

Laws banning discrimination based on sexual orientation (11 states)
Wisconsin (1982); Massachusetts (1989); Connecticut, and Hawaii (1991); California, New Jersey, and Vermont (1992); New Hampshire (1997); Nevada (1999); Maryland (2001); New York (2002).

Activists in Maine have twice passed a statewide nondiscrimination bill. The first - passed in 1997 - was repealed by a 1998 ballot measure. The second - passed in 2000 - automatically put the measure up for a public vote for ratification. On Nov. 7, 2000, Maine voters defeated the ballot initiative invalidating the measure.

* An Oregon appellate court ruled that the state law prohibiting sex discrimination in the workplace also covers sexual orientation.

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