

## MEDIA ADVISORY – January 22, 2017

### *Hate Crime Law/Bias Motivated Crimes (SB 418) Committee Hearing Alert*



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This Tuesday, January 23, 2018, [SB 418](#) to pass a hate crime law/bias motivated crimes bill in Indiana will be heard before the Senate Committee on Corrections and Criminal Law. By passing a fully inclusive bill this session like SB 418, and removing Indiana from one of the five states that does not have a bias crimes statute, we can send a strong message to businesses like Amazon that Indiana is where they should call home. The Central Indiana Alliance Against Hate (Alliance) supports passage of SB 418 as currently drafted.

The Alliance's activities have been about combating and addressing hate which "targets victims on the basis of the victim's real or perceived race, color, religion, national origin or ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender." Any anti-bias/hate crime law the Alliance supports must include all these groups. Attempts to amend or eliminate any of these groups from a hate crime law will result in Indiana once again being known as a state that discriminates and refuses to address hate crimes.

The Alliance is also very concerned at the misinformation being distributed by those against passage of a hate crime law. SB 418 will not limit speech or thought which are protected under the First Amendment and are not a crime. For a hate crime to be designated:

- A criminal act must take place and must be able to be properly prosecuted.
- The perpetrator of the crime specifically targets an individual, or group of individuals, because of an actual or perceived bias motivator, such as race, religion, gender, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

**WHAT:** SB 418 Committee Hearing before Senate Committee on Corrections and Criminal Law

**WHEN:** Tuesday, January 23, 2018 -- the hearing begins at 9:30 AM with SB 418 being second to last on the agenda.

**WHERE:** Indiana State Capitol – Room 130  
200 W. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

For more information or updates about this hearing, visit the Central Indiana Alliance Against Hate's [Facebook page](#). Read the [Alliance's Fact Sheet](#) for more answers to frequently asked questions about a hate crime law.

#### ***About the Central Indiana Alliance Against Hate***

*The Central Indiana Alliance Against Hate (Alliance) formed in March 2017 and is a group of individuals, nonprofits, and businesses that exist to reduce the occurrence and combat the consequences of hate crimes and hate-based incidents. The Alliance is a project of the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana. More information on the Alliance is at: <https://www.fhcci.org/ciaah/> #IndianaNeedsAHateCrimeLaw*