



## **NaBITA Response to the California Ban on Travel to Texas**

California has issued a ban on state-funded and state-sponsored travel to multiple states that have laws discriminating against LGBTQ people. One of these states is Texas, where the NaBITA 2017 and 2018 Annual Conferences are being held.

The travel ban was first put into effect January 1 when state measure [AB 1887](#) became law. Texas was added to the travel ban on June 1, 2017. The law states that in the spirit of being "a leader in protecting civil rights and preventing discrimination," California "must take action to avoid supporting or financing discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people."

The annual NaBITA conference brings together thought leaders and practitioners across multiple disciplines to educate and enrich the field of behavioral intervention in higher education. NaBITA promotes diversity and inclusivity, and provides a welcoming professional home to its LGBTQIA members, colleagues, event, and training attendees in our shared mission of making our campus communities safer.

NaBITA's leadership would never knowingly plan to hold its annual conference at a location to which travel was prohibited by any of its members and colleagues based on discriminatory laws. NaBITA contracted to hold the 2017 and 2018 conferences in San Antonio in 2015, 2 years before the travel ban to Texas was made law. The penalties for cancelling either conference after the ban was enacted create a financial burden that would drastically impact NaBITA's ability to hold a conference of the caliber and quality that our members and

the field have come to expect. Please be assured the NaBITA team is looking to alternate locations for 2019 and beyond, and fully explored the potential to cancel the 2017 and 2018 contracts when the ban was announced.

For colleagues who are unable to attend this year's conference, we invite you to consider one of our other training opportunities in 2017 and 2018. Specifically, NaBITA has scheduled two California-based Certification Courses in the next year. The Case Management and Intervention & Radicalization Risk Rubric R<sup>3</sup> Certification Course will be held at [Sacramento City College September 19-21, 2017](#). The BIT Foundations Certification Course will be held at California Institute of Technology in [August 2018](#). NaBITA is also planning a mini-conference event in the spring of 2018, which would also be held in California, specifically for our California colleagues impacted by the travel ban. A complete list of our scheduled training opportunities can be found on our website at <https://nabita.org/news-events/certification-courses/>. An announcement of the spring mini-conference will be forthcoming.