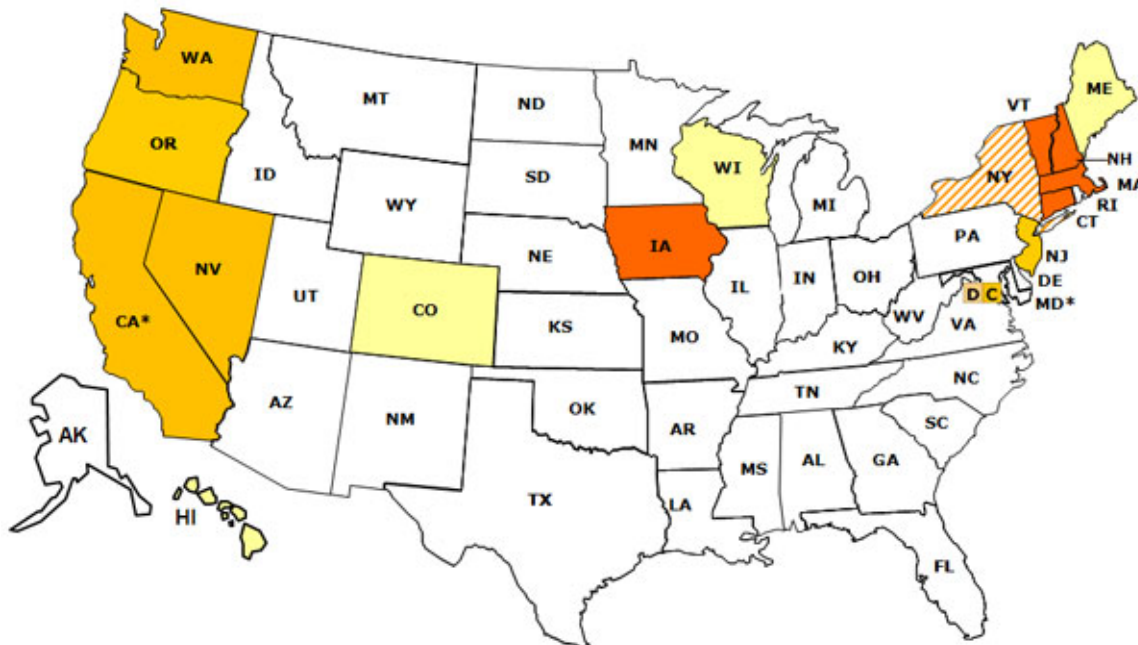




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Marriage Equality & Other Relationship Recognition Laws



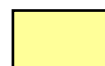
State issues marriage licenses to same-sex couples (5 states).
Connecticut (2008), Iowa (2009), Massachusetts (2004), New Hampshire (effective 1/1/2010) and Vermont (2009).



State recognizes marriages by same-sex couples legally entered into in another jurisdiction (1 state and Washington, DC)
New York (2008) and District of Columbia* (2009).



Statewide law providing the equivalent of state-level spousal rights to same-sex couples within the state (5 states and Washington, DC)
California* (domestic partnerships, 1999, expanded in 2005), District of Columbia* (domestic partnerships, 2002), Nevada (domestic partnerships, 2009), New Jersey (civil unions, 2007), Oregon (domestic partnerships, 2008) and Washington (domestic partnerships, 2007/2009).



Statewide law providing some statewide spousal rights to same-sex couples within the state (4 states)
Colorado (designated beneficiaries, 2009), Hawaii (reciprocal beneficiaries, 1997), Maine (2004), and Wisconsin (domestic partnerships, 2009).

* California: Same-sex marriages that took place between June 16, 2008 and November 4, 2008 continue to be defined as marriages. On October 12, 2009, Gov. Schwarzenegger signed into law a bill that recognizes same-sex marriages from out of state that occurred between the June to November 2008 time frame as marriages in California, and all other out of state same-sex marriages as domestic partnerships.

* District of Columbia: Washington, DC, allows same-sex couples in the District to enter into domestic partnerships and recognizes marriages by same-sex couples entered into in other jurisdictions.

* Maine: Gov. John Baldacci signed marriage equality legislation May 6, 2009. However, the new law was repealed effort by a ballot measure in November 2009.

* Maryland does not have a registry but does provide certain benefits to statutorily defined domestic partners.