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## Governor Brown signs transgender student success bill!

Aug. 12, 2013 ? Ashton Lee



*Ashton Lee is a 16-year-old transgender boy from Manteca, California. He began advocating for AB 1266 after attending GAYLA and Queer Youth Advocacy Day. AB 1266 is supported by GSA Network, the [Transgender Law Center](#)<sup>[1]</sup>, [National Center for Lesbian Rights](#)<sup>[2]</sup>, [Equality California](#)<sup>[3]</sup>, [Gender Spectrum](#)<sup>[4]</sup>, and the [ACLU of California](#)<sup>[5]</sup>.*

Breathless. I am breathless. Governor Brown [just signed AB 1266](#)<sup>[6]</sup>, the School Success and Opportunity Act, into law. Now, as school starts up again, I know that I can fully participate and just be myself. [Thank the Governor on Twitter @jerrybrowngov!](#)<sup>[7]</sup>

Two weeks ago, with an intimidating number of news cameras filming, I [delivered](#)<sup>[8]</sup> over 5,000 signatures directly to Governor Jerry Brown's office. Standing in Sacramento, with my mom by my side and stacks of signatures in my hand, I felt confident, loved, accepted, and so hopeful.

Now that the Governor has signed, it means I can finally go to school and succeed as myself. I'll be able to fully participate in all of my classes, try out for sports teams, and stay on track to graduate.

Thank you to everyone who [signed my petition](#)<sup>[9]</sup>, to the other GSA youth leaders who advocated

for this bill, and to the incredible community supporting transgender students across the state.

*Check out news clips of Ashton delivering the petition below!*



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**Source URL:** <http://gsanetwork.org/news/blog/governor-brown-signs-transgender-student-success-bill/08/12/13>

#### **Links**

[1] <http://www.transgenderlawcenter.org/>

[2] <http://www.nclrights.org/>

[3] <http://www.eqca.org>

[4] <http://genderspectrum.org/>

[5] <https://www.aclunc.org/>

[6] <http://gsanetwork.org/news/governor-brown-signs-historic-transgender-students-bill-law/081213>

[7] <http://clicktotweet.com/78ZQc>

[8] <http://blogs.sacbee.com/capitolalertlatest/2013/07/video-transgender-teen-delivers-signatures-to-jerry-brown.html>

[9] <http://org.credoaction.com/petitions/tell-gov-brown-support-transgender-youth-and-sign-ab-1266/>