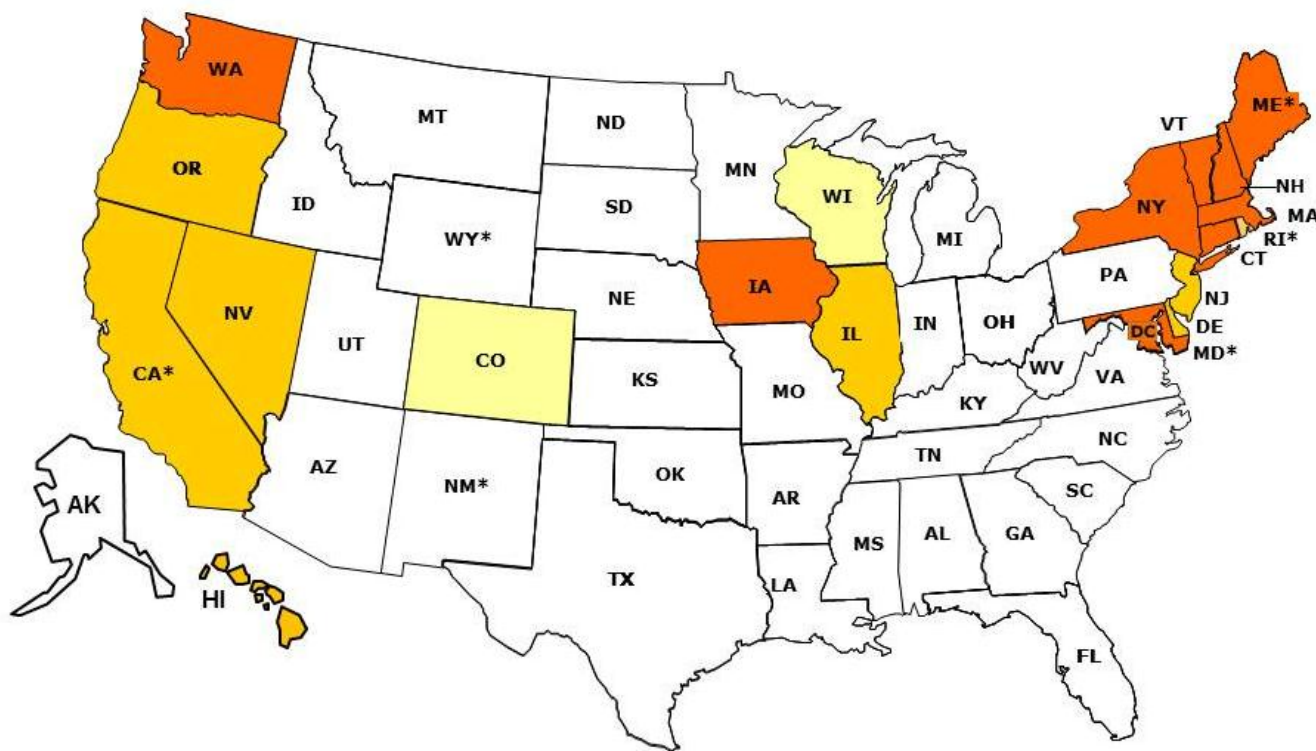




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Marriage Equality & Other Relationship Recognition Laws



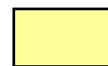
State issues marriage licenses to same-sex couples (9 states and D.C.): *Connecticut (2008), District of Columbia (2010), Iowa (2009), Maine (December, 2012), Maryland, (January, 2013), Massachusetts (2004), New Hampshire (2010), New York (2011) Vermont (2009), Washington (2012).*



State recognizes marriages by same-sex couples legally entered into in another jurisdiction (1 state): *Rhode Island (2012).*



Statewide law providing the equivalent of state-level spousal rights to same-sex couples within the state (8 states and D.C.): *California* (domestic partnerships, 1999, expanded in 2005), Delaware (civil unions, 2012), Hawaii (civil unions, 2012) Illinois (civil unions, 2011), Nevada (domestic partnerships, 2009), New Jersey (civil unions, 2007), Oregon (domestic partnerships, 2008), and Rhode Island (civil unions, 2011).*



Statewide law providing some statewide spousal rights to same-sex couples within the state (2 states): *Colorado (designated beneficiaries, 2009) and Wisconsin (domestic partnerships, 2009).*

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

* Maine: Marriage equality law goes into effect on December 29, 2012.

* Maryland: Marriage equality law goes into effect on January 1, 2013.

- * New Mexico: In Jan. 2011, the New Mexico Attorney General issued an advisory opinion declaring that the state can recognize out-of-jurisdiction same-sex marriages. At this time, it is unclear what affect this opinion will have.
- * Rhode Island: In May 2012, Governor Chafee issued an order to state agencies to recognize out-of-jurisdiction same-sex marriages.
- * Wyoming: On June 6, 2011, the Wyoming Supreme Court decided *Christensen v. Christensen*, ruling that Wyoming trial courts have the ability to hear divorce proceedings terminating same-sex marriages created in other jurisdictions.