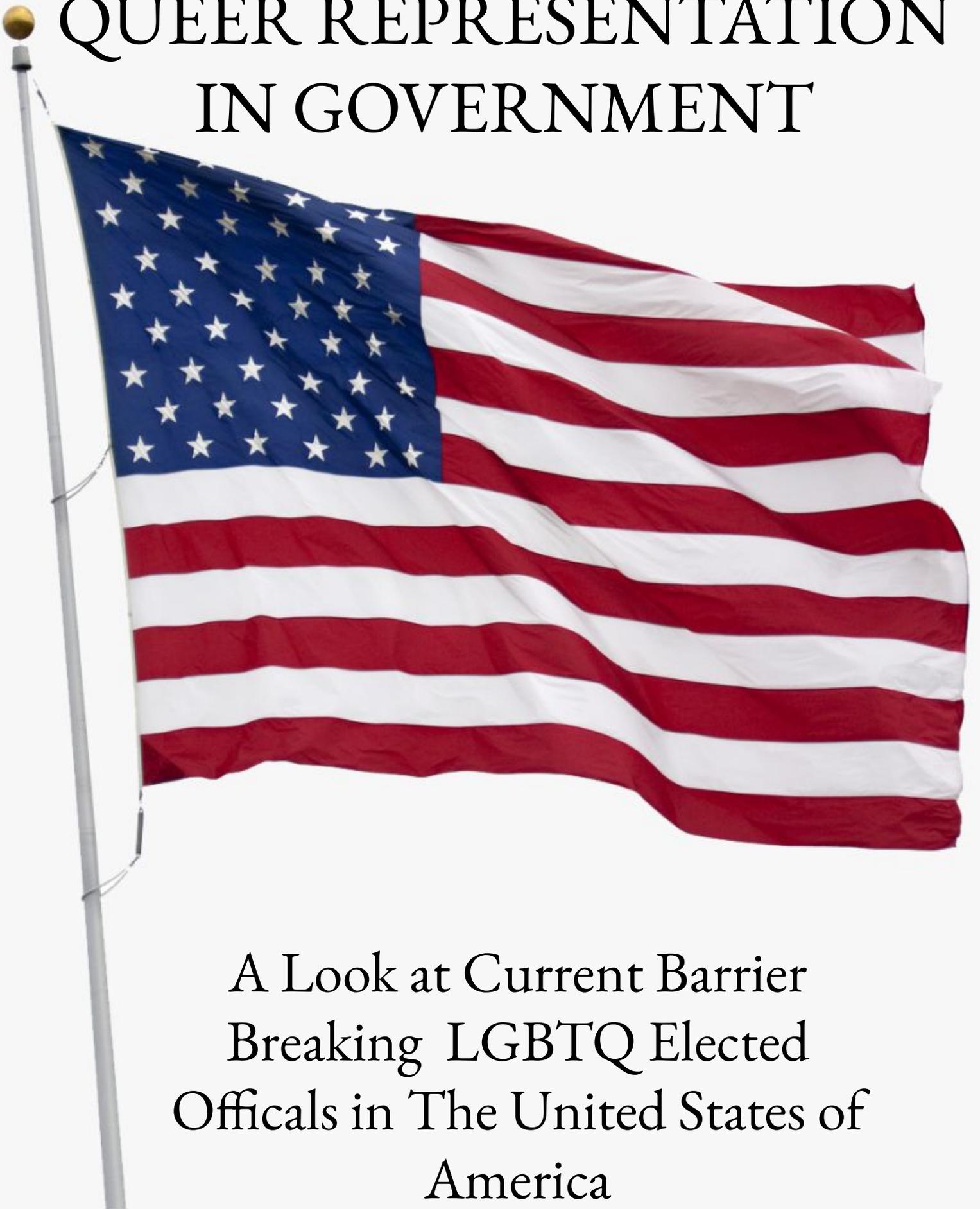


# QUEER REPRESENTATION IN GOVERNMENT



A Look at Current Barrier  
Breaking LGBTQ Elected  
Officials in The United States of  
America

# A Personal Note

When I was 17 years old I first discovered my passion for government and politics. I became infatuated with elections, and politicians, and the overall legislative process. I quickly came to understand the importance of public officials to carry out their duty and properly represent the people who elected them into office. But sadly, I soon realized that many of the elected officials who directly represented me in government did not truly represent who I am nor the values I hold. I remember the shock I felt when I found out that my (former) member of congress in Minnesota (WE VOTED HIM OUT!) had a history of homophobic rhetoric and actively worked against legislation that would protect LGBTQ individuals. As a young gay man, I felt betrayed to learn that the person tasked with representing my interests in congress was actively working against them. This is when I realized the value of having true representation in government. If queer people couldn't count on elected officials to fight for our interests, queer people themselves needed to become the elected officials. And it turns out that had already been happening. I was inspired and humbled when I learned about the number of LGBTQ elected officials in the United States who had already taken the initiative to truly represent the interests of gay, lesbian, and trans people in our government. This work is a tribute to the LGBTQ barrier breaking elected officials whose efforts have brought our community closer to true representation at the highest levels of government.

# JARED POLIS

## Governor of Colorado

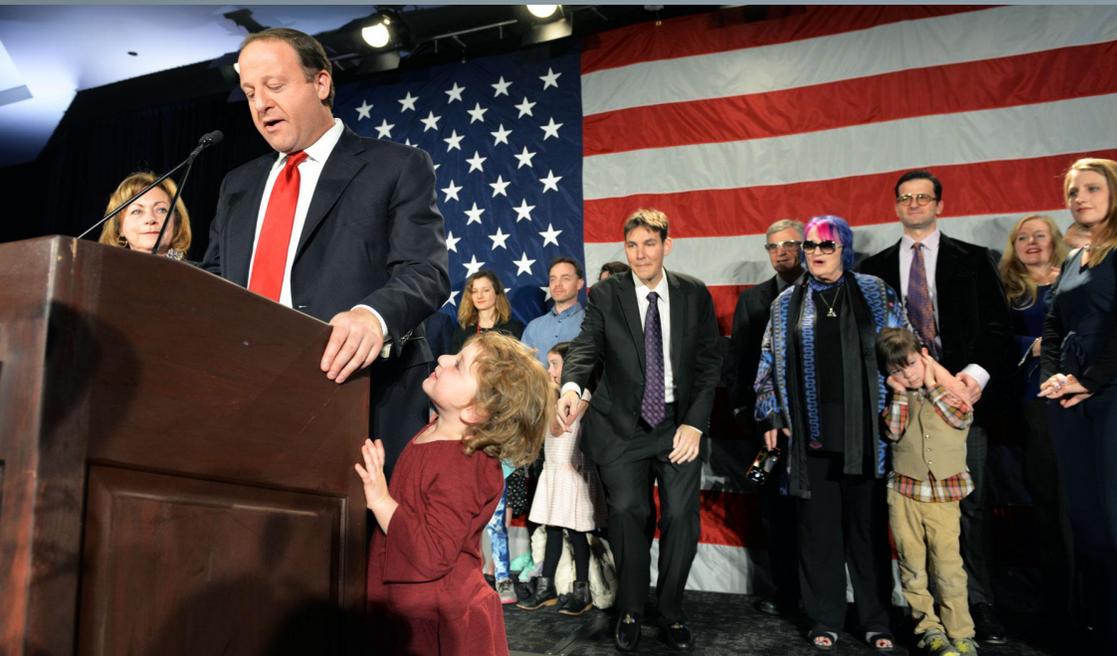


First Gay Man Elected Governor in the United States

First Same Sex Parent Elected to Congress



“I think that representative government is best when the elected officials look like everybody else,” -Jared Polis



# Sarah McBride

## Delaware State Senator



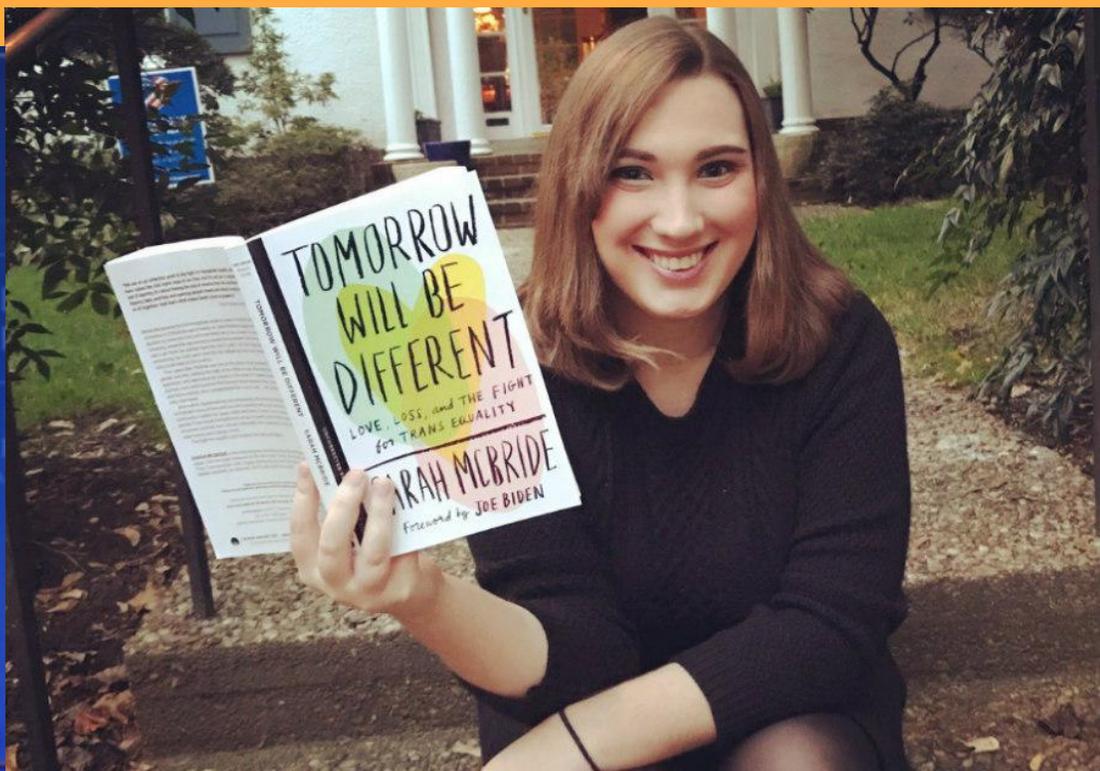
First Transgender State Senator Elected in The  
United States



 **Sarah McBride** ✓ @SarahEMcBride · 2h  
I hope tonight shows an LGBTQ kid that our democracy is big enough for them, too.

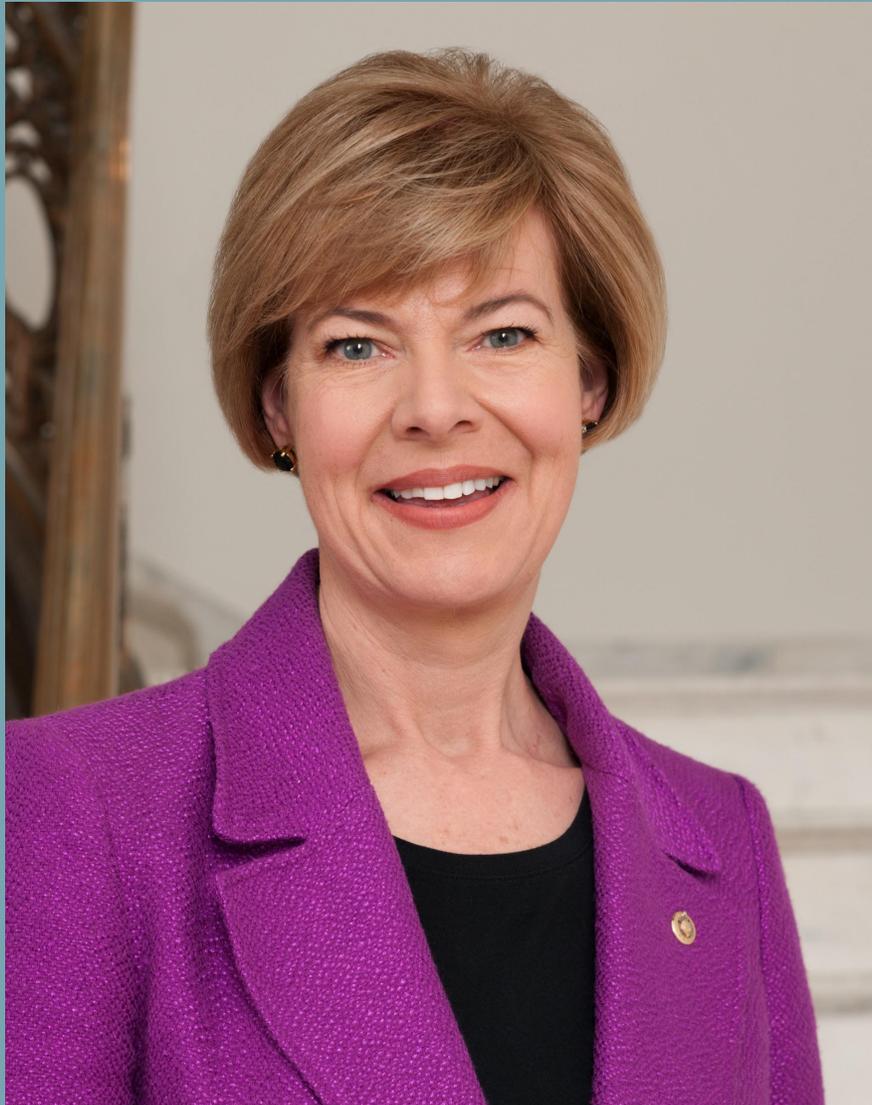
132      2K      16.7K

“There is no one-size fits-all narrative;  
Everyones path winds in different ways”  
-Sarah McBride



# TAMMY BALDWIN

## U.S Senator from Wisconsin



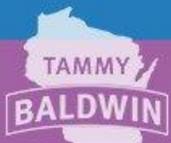
First Openly Gay Person Elected to the United States  
Senate



“All my life, the naysayers have told me that I can't win because I'm a progressive... because I'm a woman... even because I'm a lesbian.” -Tammy Baldwin



Happy  
Pride  
from  
Tammy



# Ritchie Torres and Mondaire Jones U.S Congressmen from New York



First Black Gay Men Elected to the U.S House of  
Representatives



“I was concerned that if I came out of the closet, that at best, I would face ostracism, and at worst, face violence,”  
-Ritchie Torres



**VICTORY  
IN NEW YORK**

Ritchie Torres wins his election to represent District 15 in Congress!



**VICTORY  
IN NEW YORK**

Mondaire Jones wins his election to represent District 17 in Congress!

“Growing up poor, black, and gay, I never imagined someone like me could run for Congress, let alone win,”  
-Mondaire Jones



# Maura Healey

## Attorney General of Massachusetts



First Openly Gay Attorney General Elected in the  
United States



“I had the chance to bring the country’s first successful lawsuit challenging the federal Defense of Marriage Act, which discriminated against same-sex couples,” -Maura Healey

