## LB 173 | Affirmative Consent



Individuals deserve bodily autonomy: the right to make decisions about what is and what is not right for that person and their body at any and all times. LB 173 redefines consent in the law from "no means no" to "yes means yes," because **a lack of consent is not consent.** 

## Someone is SEXUALLY ASSAULTED in America EVERY 98 SECONDS

- Around 33 percent of women, 39 percent of LGBTQ+ people, and 9 percent of men experience nonconsensual sexual contact during college. 1
- 18 percent of college students think someone has consented as long as they don't say "no." <sup>2</sup>
- In a 2007 survey conducted by the Department of Justice, 35 percent of sexual assault survivors said they did not report the crime because it was "unclear that it was a crime or that harm was intended." These survivors did not understand that it is always a crime to engage in sexual contact with someone without having given their consent. 3
- People need to start expecting to hear a "yes" before moving forward. No one should be presumed to be constantly consenting to sexual activity.

## CONSENT

- Includes the right of both partners to terminate the activity at any time, ensuring all participants can set boundaries that are then respected.
- Can be given through words or actions.
- Means seeking permission, instead of assuming consent, which rebalances power dynamics.
- Leads to healthier relationships.
- Makes for a more sex-positive community.
- Opens dialogue about potential risks like STDs and pregnancy, and challenges stereotypes that rape is solely a women's issue.



Freely Given
Reversible
Informed
Enthusiastic
Specific

 $<sup>{}^{1}</sup>https://www.bustle.com/articles/112183-the-association-of-american-universities-campus-climate-survey-on-sexual-assault-and-misconduct-shows-yet-again} \\$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/local/sexual-assault-poll/?noredirect=on

<sup>3</sup>https://www.bustle.com/articles/118139-4-statistics-that-prove-we-need-to-teach-people-about-consent