

Ted's trans trouble

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It looks like the heat's off Congressman Barney Frank for pushing a non-trans-inclusive Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) bill in Congress. Now it's Sen. Ted Kennedy's turn on the hot seat, if an April 2 AP story about his efforts to get Frank's bill - which passed the House last year - through the Senate is any indication.

"We will strongly oppose it," National Gay and Lesbian Task Force spokeswoman Roberta Sklar was quoted as saying. "Leaving transgender people out makes that a flawed movement."

"It was made very clear in the fall that most LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) organizations, the vast majority of LGBT organizations, do not want Congress to shove a civil rights bill down our throat that we don't want," Mara Keisling, executive director of the National Center for Transgender Equality, told the AP.

Ouch. Kennedy has long led the fight for gay rights in the Senate, in fact he was honored with the Congressman Gerry E. Studds Visibility Award by Fenway Community Health Center just last month. The ENDA controversy continues.