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The Senate passed a historic piece gay rights legislation Thursday that would ban workplace discrimination against gay and transgender employees, another milestone victory for the gay rights movement that has been gaining favor in the courts and electoral politics.

The 64 to 32 vote to approve the Employment Non-Discrimination Act marked the first time federal lawmakers had approved legislation to advance gay rights since repealing the military's ban on gay men and lesbians in uniform in late 20 10. Approval of the measure came two days after Illinois became the 15th state to legalize same-sex marriage and four months after the U.S. Supreme Court sanctioned federal recognition of legally married gay couples. ...

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