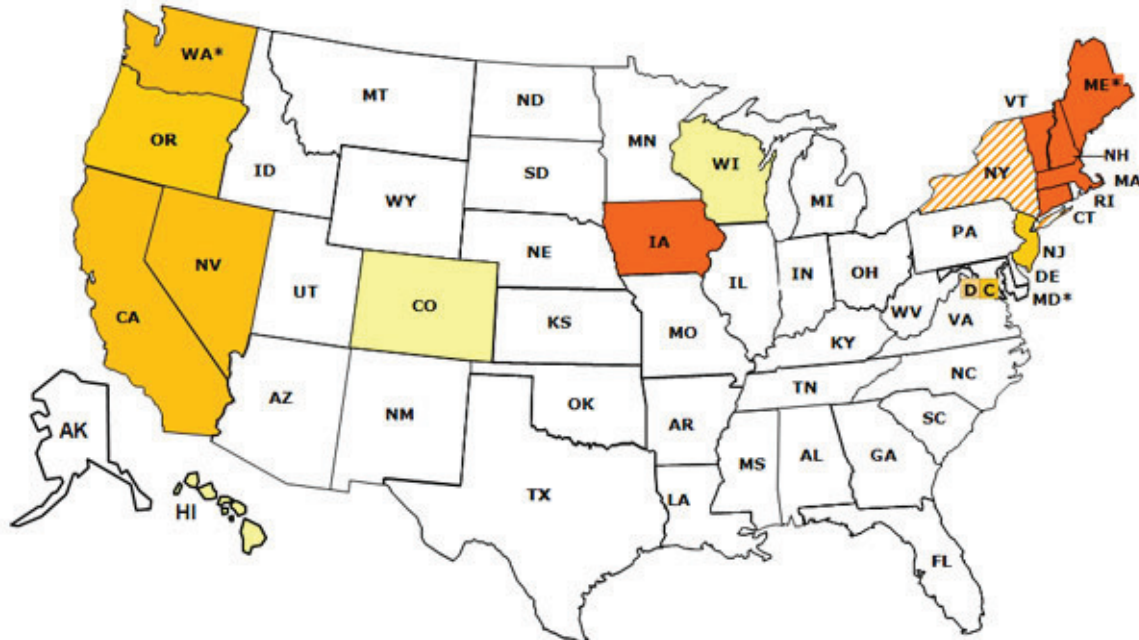



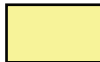


## Marriage Equality & Other Relationship Recognition Laws



-  State issues marriage licenses to same-sex couples (6 states).  
Connecticut (2008), Iowa (2009), Maine \* (2009), Massachusetts (2004), New Hampshire (effective 1/1/2010) and Vermont (2009).
-  State recognizes marriages by same-sex couples legally entered into in another jurisdiction (1 state and Washington, DC )  
New York (2008) and District of Columbia\* (2009).
-  Statewide law providing the equivalent of state-level spousal rights to same-sex couples within the state (5 states and Washington, DC )  
California (domestic partnerships, 1999, expanded in 2005), District of Columbia\* (domestic partnerships, 2002), Nevada (domestic partnerships, 2009), New Jersey (civil unions, 2007), Oregon (domestic partnerships, 2008) and Washington \* (domestic partnerships, 2007/2009).
-  Statewide law providing some statewide spousal rights to same-sex couples within the state (3 states)  
Colorado (designated beneficiaries, 2009), Hawaii (reciprocal beneficiaries, 1997) and Wisconsin (domestic partnerships, 2009).

\* District of Columbia: Washington, DC, allows same-sex couples in the District to enter into domestic partnerships and recognizes marriages by same-sex couples entered into in other jurisdictions.

\* Maine: Gov. John Baldacci signed marriage equality legislation May 6, 2009. The new law was scheduled to become effective in mid-September 2009; however, it now faces a repeal effort in a ballot measure before voters in November 2009.

\* Washington: Gov. Chris Gregoire signed the Domestic Partnership Expansion bill May 18, 2009. Most provisions were scheduled to become effective July 26, 2009; however, it now faces a repeal effort in a ballot measure before voters in November 2009.

\* Maryland does not have a registry but does provide certain benefits to statutorily defined domestic partners.