Queer Youth Assemble One Pager

**NJ LGBTQ Youth State Commission (A1592):**

- This bill creates a commission on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth within the NJ Department of Law and Safety
- The Commission will consist of 17 members with the following responsibilities:
  - develop and review recommendations for legislation, regulations, and policies pertaining to health and human services, housing, education, employment, business, and other areas which impact LGBTQIA+ individuals
  - provide guidance to State agencies and departments to ensure anti-discriminatory employee hiring, retention, and promotion policies as well as forums for developing strategies and programs that expand the civic, social, educational, cultural, and economic status of LGBTQIA+ individuals
  - serve as a liaison to federal, State, and local agencies to ensure that programs affecting LGBTQIA+ individuals are effectively utilized and promoted
  - identify programs, scholarships, mentoring programs, sources of funding, and other resources for the benefit and advancement of LGBTQIA+ individuals
- The governor will appoint the majority of the members (9)
- New Jersey would not be the only state with this type of commission
  - Massachusetts and Washington are the only states that have this LGBTQIA+ State Commission
    - Massachusetts is the only state whose commission is youth-centered
    - The Massachusetts Commission was founded in 1992
      - The commission releases yearly recommendations for state agencies about the ways various state agencies can directly improve the lives of LGBTQ youth via direct and intersectional policy

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