



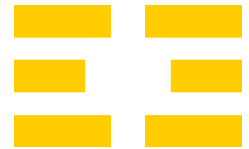
## Ascena Retail Group

Subsidiaries: Ann Taylor, LOFT, Lane Bryant, Cacique, Lou & Grey

Locations: New Jersey (HQ)

Industries: Consumer Durables and Apparel, Retailing

### RISK LEVEL:



Medium Risk

### DESCRIPTION:

Ascena vets vendors according to LGBTQ policies and does not provide its employees with protections against viewpoint discrimination, but has not publicly terminated business relationships based on views or beliefs. The company covers the cost of "medically necessary transition-related care" for its employees and their children. Ascena and its subsidiaries have embraced ESG into their overall business strategy, engaged in DEI-related advocacy, and funded an LGBTQ advocacy group through a subsidiary. However, it has not discriminated against religious organizations in its charitable giving. For these reasons, Ascena receives a "Medium Risk" rating.

### Corporate Weaponization

**Has denied service to customers, suppliers, or vendors due to their political views or religious beliefs OR corporately boycotts, divests, or sanctions regions, people groups, or industries.** **Medium Risk**

*Ascena Retail Group has not publicly fired customers, suppliers, or vendors based on political views or religious beliefs. Ascena Retail Group has received a score of 100 on the Corporate Equality Index from the Human Rights Campaign. Among other requirements, this means the company has a written policy pledging to vet vendors for LGBTQ policies (1)(2).*

**Charitable giving (including employee matching programs) policies or practices discriminate against charitable organizations based on views or religious beliefs.** **Lower Risk**

*Ascena Retail Group and its subsidiaries do not discriminate against religious organizations in their charitable giving. Ascena Retail Group has an employee donation matching program, though eligibility details are internal (1)(2). Ascena Retail Group's charitable giving effort primarily focus on the well-being of women and children (3).*

**Employment policies fail to protect against discrimination based on political affiliation/views and/or religion.** **High Risk**

*Ascena Retail Group and its subsidiaries Ann Taylor, LOFT, Lane Bryant, and Cacique do not provide viewpoint protections for employees (1).*

### Corporate Governance and Public Policy

**Uses corporate reputation to support ideological causes and/or organizations hostile to freedom of expression. High Risk**

[1](#)/[2](#)). The company is a signatory of the CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion pledge and the Business Statement on Anti-LGBTQ State Legislation [3](#)/[4](#)). Ascena Retail Group holds mandatory unconscious bias training for employees [5](#)). Ascena Retail Group and its subsidiaries incorporate ESG into all of their business practices [6](#)/[7](#)).

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**Uses corporate funds to advance ideological causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom of expression. Medium Risk**

Ascena Retail Group's subsidiary Lane Bryant funds GLSEN, which engages in LGBTQ advocacy [1](#)/[2](#)).

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**Uses corporate political contributions for ideological, non-business purposes.**

**N/A**

Ascena Retail Group does not make PAC donations or lobby [1](#)).

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