



June 11, 2023

The Hon. _____
U.S. House of Representatives
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Alex Padilla
United States Senate
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Support and Protect LGBTQ+ Americans

Dear Members of Congress,

As your constituent I urge you to support the introduction and passage of the Equality Act. LGBTQ+ Americans face unjust, invidious discrimination daily. As children of God, they deserve the same rights and privileges as all other human beings. My faith teaches me to respect the dignity of every person. The Equality Act would help ensure that the dignity of LGBTQ+ persons will be respected in the federal laws of the United States.

In addition, we have recently seen wave after wave of extreme measures in the states and in Congress, to criminalize and strip transgender people of access to healthcare that keeps them alive and healthy. As we celebrate our LGBTQ family members, friends, and neighbors this Pride Month, **I am writing – during a genuine moment of crisis – to urge you to publicly commit to doing everything within your power to protect the health and dignity of transgender people.**

I want to be very clear: Gender-affirming care, including for transgender youth, is evidence-based, medically necessary, and life-saving. This is why every leading medical organization, including the American Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, strongly oppose efforts to criminalize and deny this care to transgender people.

Patients and their doctors should be the ones making individual healthcare decisions, not cynical politicians looking to score political points and raise money through fear-mongering and ignorance. As a Member of Congress, you must stand against this.

Transgender people deserve the same chance to thrive and live fulfilling lives as everyone else. Having the freedom to control our bodies and seek the healthcare we need, including gender-affirming care, is an essential right for all people.

I urge you to not remain silent in this moment. Use your voice. Publicly show up in support with the transgender community and the rest of the LGBTQ+ community, not only during Pride Month but all year long. Pass the Equality Act and most urgently, use your power to protect life-saving healthcare for transgender youth and adults alike.

Thank you. I look forward to your response.

(Print Name) _____

Address _____
