

City and County of San Francisco
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*****STATEMENT*****

*San Francisco Human Rights Commission and Office of Transgender Initiatives
Support US House Resolution 124 and Condemn President Trump's
Ban on Transgender People Serving in the US Armed Forces*

San Francisco, CA - The San Francisco Human Rights Commission and Office of Transgender Initiatives today issued the following statement in support of US House Resolution 124.

"The San Francisco Human Rights Commission (HRC) and Office of Transgender Initiatives (OTI) are proud to support US House Resolution 124, a bipartisan resolution opposing President Trump's ban on transgender people serving in the US Armed Forces. The resolution cleared the US House of Representatives with a vote of 238-185, with five Republicans voting with Democrats.

President Trump first announced the ban in July 2017, and then-Secretary of Defense James Mattis issued a policy in 2018. In January 2019, the US Supreme Court allowed the ban to go into effect. House Resolution 124 urges the Department of Defense to not reinstate the ban and to have an inclusive policy that allows transgender people to enlist and serve in the US Armed Forces.

President Trump's ban is rooted in transphobia and discriminates against military service members on the basis of gender identity. It puts at risk the health and safety of thousands of transgender people currently serving in the armed forces.

The ban follows in a line of decisions that undermine transgender rights. The Trump administration previously rescinded protections for transgender students in public schools and rolled back data collection on LGBT older adults.

The HRC and OTI stand in solidarity with transgender service members across the country and around the world. The HRC and OTI remain committed to fighting transphobia and empowering transgender and gender non-conforming communities, especially as hate violence against these communities continues to rise.

The HRC's current work in the area of transgender rights includes strategic partnerships with community-based organizations to provide legal and support services to transgender people, with an emphasis on transgender women of color. The HRC has also



collaborated with law enforcement agencies to strengthen policies affecting transgender people. This work builds on the HRC's previous advocacy for transgender healthcare, non-discrimination protections, and culturally competent services."

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