

City and County of San Francisco
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



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March 25, 2016
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
City Hall, Room 244
San Francisco, Ca. 94102-4689

To the Honorable San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

The San Francisco Human Rights Commission (SFHRC) is pleased to offer its strong support of San Francisco Supervisors Scott Wiener and David Campos in their efforts to support the passage of California State Bill AB 1887, a ban of State funded travel to states with anti-LGBT laws.

Existing California law prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, ethnic group identification, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, color, genetic information, or disability under any State program or activity. Existing law also provides for officers and employees of the State, when away from their headquarters on State business, to receive reimbursement for travel expenses.

The San Francisco Human Rights Commission supports AB 1887, which would prohibit a State agency from requiring any of its employees, officers, or members to travel to any state with a law in effect that sanctions or requires discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, or approving a request for state-funded or state-sponsored travel to any state with a law in effect that sanctions or requires discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. The SFHRC would strongly endorse amendments to this proposed legislation that would provide for certain exemptions, such as for educational or humanitarian reasons.

Since its inception in 1964, the SFHRC has been charged by the City and County of San Francisco to provide leadership and promote and advocate for the human rights of all San Franciscans. We are resolute in our support of local, State and national efforts to limit or neutralize the negative impact of discriminatory laws against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals as currently supported in some instances by asserting a religious freedom exemption.

SFHRC echoes the shared pronouncement of bill co-authors Assembly Members Evan Low and Phil Ting, as well as Equality California, that the passage AB 1887 sends a clear message that the State of California does not tolerate discrimination in any form.

The SFHRC applauds your leadership regarding this effort and remains committed to supporting you in those efforts toward the passage of CA AB 1887.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Susan Belinda Christian', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Susan Belinda Christian
Chair
On Behalf of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission