



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

John A. Mirisch, Mayor

June 19, 2019

The Honorable Ted Lieu
403 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: S. 788/H.R. 5, the Equality Act
City of Beverly Hills – SUPPORT

Dear Congressman Lieu,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I am pleased to write to you in strong **SUPPORT** of **S. 788 / H.R. 5**, the Equality Act. This legislation bans discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity under the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Our City commends you for cosponsoring S. 788 and we urge you to work towards its enactment into law.

The Equality Act, sponsored by Senator Jeff Merkley of Oregon and Representative David Cicilline of Rhode Island, proposes to amend the Civil Rights Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in employment, housing, public accommodation, public education, federal funding, credit and other settings. This measure is an important milestone in American culture and history. The Equality Act recognizes the fundamental principle that discrimination under any guise is wrong. Discrimination is illegal when it is based on race, religion, sex and disability. The time is long-overdue to expand these basic civil rights protections to the LGBTQ community.

Senator Merkley and Representative Cicilline's legislative initiative is a reflection of America in the 21st century – an era when Americans of all ethnic, racial and sexual orientations can celebrate their individual uniqueness and dignity. No one in our society today should have to lose a job, be denied a service, prohibited from an educational opportunity, or prevented from attending a facility or event because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. We are stronger as a nation if we embrace and respect our differences as a people.

In closing, the City of Beverly Hills stands united in endorsing the Equality Act. In the wake of House passage of the Equality Act, we look forward to working with you and other members of the Senate to ensure passage of this historic piece of legislation.

Sincerely,



John A. Mirisch
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills