CHAMBER OF COMMERCE of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce supports H.R. 5 and S. 788, the Equality Act, introduced by Representatives David Cicilline and Brian Fitzpatrick, and Senators Jeff Merkley and Susan Collins. It would update federal law to prohibit discrimination in the workplace and in commerce on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Equality under the law fosters an environment where America's diverse workforce can reach its full potential without fear of discrimination.

Embracing equality has a profoundly positive impact on business performance. A recent report from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation found that LGBT-inclusive companies enjoy higher revenue margins, attract better talent, and have lower employee turnover.

Existing federal law and the laws of many states fail to protect against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. Providing such protections will help further extend the promise of equal opportunity that is the bedrock of the United States.

The Chamber looks forward to the enactment of the Equality Act.

Sincerely,

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Neil L. Bradley