

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB17
Date: Wednesday, February 09, 2022 11:47:59 AM

I am in support of HB17.

Patricia Olsen
Anchorage

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: FW: HB 17
Date: Thursday, February 17, 2022 9:49:38 AM

From: Cheryl & Mark Lovegreen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2022 9:43 AM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 17

I support HB 17 to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexuality, gender identity, and gender expression in Alaska in the areas of employment, housing, banking, and public accommodations. All Alaskans deserve civil rights.

Cheryl Lovegreen
Anchorage

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: FW: In Support of HB 17
Date: Friday, February 18, 2022 1:44:20 PM

From: Krysta Daniel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 18, 2022 1:39 PM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>
Cc: Brenae Baker [REDACTED]
Subject: In Support of HB 17

Hello Representative Andy Josephson,

I am an Anchorage resident, **writing to say thank you for sponsoring HB 17, I am in FULL SUPPORT.**

I don't believe it is within true American values to 'legally discriminate' against anyone, having HB 17 in the books to *officially* make that is well overdue.

Alaskans believe in privacy and individualism. Our laws need to reflect that. No one should be afraid they'll be fired, unable to get housing, or unable to get financing just because of who they love. One because that's just the morally right thing, and two because it's completely irrelevant.

Thank you again for sponsoring this bill, I support HB17!

Be well,
Krysta Daniel
Anchorage Resident

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Pass HB17
Date: Friday, March 11, 2022 1:03:06 PM

My name is Shoshana Kun and I am in house district 1and I am urging you to pass hb 17 for equal rights.

Thank you for your time.
-shoshana Kun
City of Fairbanks
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Friday, March 11, 2022 7:48:01 PM

Please support this bill and protect our LGBTQ friends, family and neighbors from discrimination. Thank you. Glenn Cravez, [REDACTED], Anchorage 99502.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please support House Bill 17
Date: Saturday, March 12, 2022 7:49:21 AM

Dear Honored Representatives,

Please vote in support of House Bill 17. Our community should be inclusive and safe for all of its members. We cannot continue to allow our neighbors who love and identify differently than historic binary system to be second class citizens. Who someone loves and how their gender identity matches their physical body are not indications of merit or worth. People are people and should all be full parts of our Alaskan community.

Sincerely,
Rebecca King
Anchorage, Alaska

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Saturday, March 12, 2022 8:41:01 AM

Committee members:

I am writing to urge you to add the specific phrase, "sexual orientation, gender identity or expression," as proposed in HB 17, to Alaska's Equality Act. No Alaskan should ever be subject to different treatment in areas of housing, employment, wages, or other commonly life activities due to any factor of subjective judgment.

I worked for many years as a clinician for the Alaska VA Healthcare System, and it was my honor to work with a strong group of transgender veterans. They taught me about the daily challenges of earning a living, obtaining housing and even being treated as any other citizen in commercial establishments. These are people who served our country, who are part of the veteran community that we hold dear in our state. They, as well as other LGBTQ+ Alaskans, deserve what any other citizen is allowed, and to have that codified in statute.

Respectfully,
Sue Ellen May
Eagle River

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: House Bill 17
Date: Saturday, March 12, 2022 9:11:13 AM

Dear Representatives:

I support passage of HB 17. This bill would codify needed protections against discrimination for more of our fellow Alaskans who have been targets of various degrees and types of discrimination in their workplaces, housing and other areas of society. There are pockets of protection in some areas of the state, but a state-wide Anti-discrimination law is needed so that all Alaskans will be protected.

I urge you to vote for this bill so that it can move out of committee and onward to full approval by the legislature.

Thank you for your support for equal treatment for all!
Sheri Whitethorn, RN

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: House Bill 17
Date: Saturday, March 12, 2022 9:48:03 AM

I'm writing in SUPPORT of HB17. It's time to join the 21st century!

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: In Support of House Bill 17
Date: Saturday, March 12, 2022 12:14:34 PM

Dear Legislators,

Please vote in support of House Bill 17, which will finally allow many Alaskans to be treated with equality and respect. This bill adds LGBTQ+ people to the equality measures that should be enjoyed by all our state's citizens. If you want to have "liberty and justice for all" in our state, then vote ""YES" on House bill 17. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Marilyn J. Carpenter
Anchorage, AK

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Support House Bill 17
Date: Saturday, March 12, 2022 5:16:19 PM

I am writing as a voting resident of Anchorage, in support of passing House Bill 17, a bill prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression. It is beyond time Alaska passes such a bill for the good of our community.

Respectfully,

Ann Mayo-Kiely

[REDACTED]

Anchorage, AK 99507

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Cc: [Rep. Grier Hopkins](#); [Sen. Robert Myers](#)
Subject: HB 17 -- support and please pass out of committee
Date: Saturday, March 12, 2022 5:19:35 PM

Honorable Members of the House Judiciary Committee (and cc to my own senator and rep):

As a lifelong, multi-generation Alaskan, wife, mother and active community member in Fairbanks, I urge you to approve House Bill 17, "an Act adding to the powers and duties of the State Commission for Human Rights; and relating to and prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression." Please pass it out of the Judiciary Committee on Monday.

Alaska must live in the 21st Century when it comes to LGBTQ protections against discrimination, similar to what we've done with religion, race, color, etc. Alaska used to be ahead of the curve on these type of issues, but we've fallen far behind. This has a negative effect on our economy, as we need everybody to help move our great state forward into the future. We need to embrace and welcome all people and not relegate some as "lesser valued" simply because of who they are.

Alaskans have always judged each other based on what we can do and what we contribute to our communities, vs. who we are, what religion we practice, the color of our skin or who we happen to love or how we see ourselves. Did you get out fishing, hiking, fill your freezer with salmon this summer? Did you plant a garden or build a house? Do you have a job, friends and family? Did you run the Iditarod? Perform in your local orchestra or theatre? Help pick up trash on cleanup day? Volunteer at the food bank? These are the things that matter to most Alaskans, not whether someone identifies as this or that. Members of the LGBTQ community are our friends, neighbors, co-workers, parents, children, bosses and employees. They are awesome, contributing members of our great big Alaska community. They are valued, wanted and welcomed. Our state statutes must reflect our values, and sadly, they currently do not. HB 17 will change that.

Alaska is losing population due to a number of factors, but being stuck in the Dark Ages when it comes to LGBTQ people does not help. HB 17 in my view is a housekeeping measure. Pass it out of committee and move on to other pressing matters.

As state legislators, you must know that many of these folks voted for you. They're in your districts and all over our state, working and living good, productive lives. But they aren't treated equally under the law. This must change.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Ripley
Fairbanks, AK
Lifelong Alaskan, Voter in House District 4 and Senate District B

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: house bill 17
Date: Saturday, March 12, 2022 6:57:55 PM

Succinctly, I am in favor of all of the gay alphabet being allowed to live in a home they can afford and hold a job they are qualified to fill. Though arguably you might exempt roommates and occupants of small enough condos from that. I believe Anchorage exempted buildings with up to four apartments where the owner lived in one of those four. The idea being that the owner lives there and maybe they can't coexist in close proximity to someone of a class/race/orientation they don't like. But please put me down as a random Alaskan voter in favor.

Respectfully
Pam Siegfried
Anchorage

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB17
Date: Saturday, March 12, 2022 9:54:51 PM

Representatives,

I encourage you to support this bill.

Thank you,
Jason Norris
Anchorage, Alaska

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please support HB 17
Date: Saturday, March 12, 2022 11:06:42 PM

To Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

I urge you to support HB 17, which would formally protect LGBTQ people from discrimination. Alaska is a great state in which to live, but would be even better if we recognized that negative impacts of discrimination, including against LGBTQ people, should be explicitly prohibited. All Alaskans should be respected and valued.

Thank you for considering my input.

Jeff Walters
Fairbanks

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#); [Rep. Laddie Shaw](#)
Subject: Please pass HB 17
Date: Sunday, March 13, 2022 5:17:43 AM

As a social worker, I see first hand how harmful discrimination is against any minority group. LGBTQ people need protection. Protecting people who may have different gender expressions, identities, or orientation than expected is the right thing to do. Let's help make Alaska a great place to live for all!

Thank you,

Joclyn Reilly, LCSW

[REDACTED], Anchorage, AK 99516

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Support for House Bill 17
Date: Sunday, March 13, 2022 5:59:29 AM

I support passing House Bill 17 anti-discrimination bill.

Debra DeProspero
[REDACTED]
Anchorage, AK 99508
907-230-5150

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Yes on HB 17
Date: Sunday, March 13, 2022 9:26:32 AM

Dear House Judiciary Committee,

Please vote yes on HB 17 to protect the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer Alaskans. Nobody should have to worry about losing their home due to their sexual orientation

and gender identity, which threatens no one, yet LGBTQ+ Alaskans clearly have reason to fear given recent and historic discrimination. The introduction of SB 140 is just one current example of the ill will suffered by Alaskans, who are harming no one, just by being themselves. We already prohibit discrimination on the basis of other traits we are born with and cannot change: race, color, national origin, age, and sex. Please act now to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity by voting yes on HB 17.

Sincerely,
Nathan Borson
Gustavus, AK 99826

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Sunday, March 13, 2022 10:27:49 AM

I support the passage of HB 17. The protections it puts in place are important to people who have been marginalized and are without a place to register their complaints. This bill is a positive step forward and allows the State Commission for Human Rights to do its job to protect every Alaskan.

Gayle Schuh
Eagle River

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#); [Rep. Matt Claman](#); [Rep. Liz Snyder](#); [Rep. Harriet Drummond](#); [Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins](#); [Rep. David Eastman](#); [Rep. Christopher Kurka](#); [Rep. Sarah Vance](#)
Subject: Testimony on HB 17
Date: Sunday, March 13, 2022 1:45:08 PM

Honorable Representatives,

I appreciate and thank you for taking the time to read this email.

I am writing to ask you to **support** HB 17, the bill regarding Statewide LGBTQ+ Non-Discrimination.

LGBTQ+ Alaskans are our family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers. When it comes to being able to earn a living, having a place to live, or being served by a business or government office, they should be treated like anyone else and **not** be discriminated against. **Nobody** should have to worry about losing their home or employment due to their sexual orientation or gender identity. LGBTQ+ Alaskans just want to contribute to our state, earn a living, and be able to provide for their families, just like everyone else. Embracing diversity makes a stronger Alaska, makes for better business, and a better and healthier community.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Karl Bergman
99709

I am writing in support of HB 17, "An act adding to the powers and duties of the State commission for human rights; and relating to and prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression".

I am a 79 year old lesbian living in Eagle River with my wife of 44 years. We both taught in the suburbs of Chicago for almost 35 years and were well regarded educators and coaches. My wife also served as assistant principal for 2 years. We moved to AK in 2003 after we retired and served the Anchorage community as volunteers.

During my lifetime, we were classed as mentally ill, could be arrested for wearing clothing of the opposite sex, gay men blamed for the AIDS epidemic, couldn't serve in the military if openly gay, couldn't adopt children, and couldn't marry until 2016.

While rights in Anchorage are protected under the non-discrimination ordinance, we can now marry and live openly, but outside of Anchorage, Juneau, Sitka, and Ketchikan, people can still be fired and denied housing for being LGBTQ.

We are respected, productive members of the general community and should have the same protections of rights regardless of where we live in Alaska. We have fought for our rights basically our whole lives and would love to live knowing that we have equal rights in all of Alaska.


Please advance and pass this bill for the LGBTQ community.

Sincerely,

Julie Schmidt, Director of SAGE Alaska
March 14, 2022

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Sunday, March 13, 2022 7:02:42 PM

Hello,
Please pass HB 17 to protect LGBTQ people in Alaska.
Thanks,
Jamie White
Anchorage, AK

From: 
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Non-discrimination LGBTQ+ Support
Date: Sunday, March 13, 2022 8:00:11 PM

Alaska Legislature,

My name is Cai Williams, I am 14 years old, use they/them pronouns, and am a member of the LGBTQ+ community. I personally find it scary to grow up in a society where sexuality and gender can dictate how you stand in society, how we choose to identify ourselves has nothing to do with our professionalism and potential.

I speak not only for myself but for other LGBTQ+ children in Alaska when I say we do not only support non-discrimination protection for LGBTQ+ citizens in Alaska, but we need it. To grow as a society and evolve to a brighter Alaska.

Thank you for your time,

Cai

--

Charlotte Williams

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Testimony for HB 17
Date: Sunday, March 13, 2022 11:45:02 PM

House Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony.

I support HB 17 regarding LGBTQ+ non-discrimination, and I ask that you do the same by showing your support for this bill that would provide LGBTQ+ individuals the freedom to live and work without fear of discrimination for being who they are. They are human, just as much as anyone else, and they deserve to have their equality solidified by law. I have deep, personal connections with many members of the LGBTQ+ community and I couldn't stand to see my fellow Alaskans fear being harassed at work or losing their job or home, due to what goes on in their personal, private lives.

Supporting this bill provides crucial support for this marginalized community, and once again, I ask you to pass HB 17.

I'm Jesse Schnabel, I live in Fairbanks in district 4-B.

Thanks.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Supporting HB 17
Date: Sunday, March 13, 2022 11:46:16 PM

To the House Judiciary Committee,

My name is Jordyn Cleveland, I reside in Senate District L, and I support HB 17. Why are we still fighting for a bill that protects individuals of the LGBTQ+ communities from discrimination when we have more significant issues to attend to? The creation of this bill should be a no-brainer. We have to continue to support and protect those from discrimination, no matter their ethnicity, race, sexuality, identity preferences, and abilities in society. All lives matter and should be protected from discrimination. As a member of the LGBTQ+ community and having experiencing disabilities, I face a higher percentage of being discriminated against. I need to have the security of a bill as a born and raised resident of Alaska to protect me from discrimination. I should not have to worry about hiding my true self and identity when I am out in public with my peers, and I am tired of hiding and being scared of being without a bill protecting my rights as a human being.

Thank you for your time in reading this.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Bill HB17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 1:34:26 PM

I would like to voice support for Bill HB17.

Alaskans should know the power and necessity of protecting our brothers and sisters from those that would hurt and belittle them. This should extend to our LGBTQ+ community.

Thank you.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#); [Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tompkins](#)
Subject: Email testifying in support of HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 12:56:51 PM

Dear Alaska House Judiciary Committee,

My name is Ryan Morse. I am from Sitka, Alaska, and a constituent of Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tompkins

As you are holding public testimony, I am writing to voice my personal support of HB 17.

Every Alaskan's constitutional right to privacy should guarantee equal access without regard to an Alaskan's sexual orientation. Everyone in this state deserves to live free from discrimination and harassment regardless of their sexual orientation. I support this bill, and urge you to as well.

Thank you,
Ryan Morse
Sitka, Alaska

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17 - IN FAVOR
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 3:37:30 PM

Good afternoon,

I am in favor of HB 17. I think this is a vital and critical bill to pass. I call on legislators to protect everyone by passing HB17

"Y'all means all".

Thank you for reading my testimony.

David Ferriera
Eagle River, AK

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Cc: Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov
Subject: HB 17 Support
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 11:35:13 AM

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Please support HB 17 which will guarantee that all people in the state be treated equally. Too many times LGBTQ+ individuals lose out on a job or housing once the decision maker learns of their status. It has happened to friends of mine. Everything was proceeding toward signing a lease when suddenly the offer was withdrawn because the landlord learned of a gender identity change or a same-sex partner.

Passage of this bill will at least end blatant discrimination and level the playing field for all citizens of Alaska.

Please vote to move this bill out of committee.

Gayle Schuh
Julie Schmidt
Eagle River, AK

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17 support
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 1:58:46 PM

Please pass HB 17.

Discrimination against anyone for who they are and who they love is harmful, unfair, and unAlaskan.

Alaska is known as a place where people are free to be who they wish to be.

There should be no fears of losing jobs or housing or anything else because of this.

LGBTQIA+ Alaskans deserve all the protections enjoyed by every Alaskan.

Cathy Pegau
(she/her)
Cordova

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Cc: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:53:08 AM

I am writing to urge you to hold a vote (and vote in favor of) HB 17.
I am in agreement to add the line, "sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression" to Alaska's existing anti-discrimination law .

Thank you,

Namaste,
Sat Nam,
Enjoy Life,
Kathleen Neumaier
Healy, AK (907) [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 9:50:38 PM

I hear you all are taking public testimony on this bill to protect from abuse people that are LGBTQ+. I strongly encourage it's passage. As a former Army Soldier I experienced the horrible way LGBTQ+ Soldiers were treated. When I began my service it was shut up, don't tell, don't talk about, etc. or you'll be discharged as unfit for military service. I saw first hand how Soldiers had to hide their identity, their true self so they could uphold a calling from within to be a Soldier and stand ready to do all the things Soldiers are required to do to include die for the country that was discriminating against them. This was much akin to African-American Soldiers during World War II. It wasn't right for the black Soldiers and it still wasn't right for LGBTQ+ Soldiers, but they persevered and ushered in the stupidity that became don't ask don't tell. Which basically said don't talk about this and shut the hell up about yourself, even though you as an LGBTQ+ Soldier had to listen to the weekend war stories of the heterosexual Soldiers of their sexual escapades, because if you did say anything just like before you'd be removed from service. Now that has mostly gone away for Soldiers, but unfortunately not so much for LGBTQ+ citizens. Daily they get discriminated against in employment, in housing, and even in the receiving of medical care. None of this should be allowed but because people are clever and hide their true intentions (hate) and sometimes even resort to talk of religious freedom they get away with atrocious acts of uncivilized acts. LGBTQ+ people just want to live their lives free from all the garbage that comes their way because of who they are, which is akin to asking a black person not to be black, or a Hispanic person not to be Hispanic. Sufficient scientific research has been completed and rest assured despite the rhetoric from others it pretty much soundly states that being LGBTQ+ is something you are born into, and is not a "lifestyle" choice much like being a lawyer or businessperson and all that comes with those career decisions. It is time to protect people, to give people their God given right to pursue happiness and to live truly equally. Someday a law like this won't be needed (I hope), but until then, until the time all people despite their peculiar natures can live free and equal, and not have to endure that which LGBTQ+ people have to endure this law is needed. Time will tell by your actions, your votes if you were ever truly on the side of our founding fathers when they declared that all men (people) are created equal and with unalienable rights such as the pursuit of happiness. Or will you hide behind a smoke screen delivered to you by those who will use rhetoric to confuse and lay seed to confusion, and again allow other humans to live a life less dignified as yours because of their true authentic selves. In my eye from 18 years of defending this country and this state there is only one correct vote, now make it or do a disservice to all the Soldiers who laid their life on the line to get us to this point and drive us to that more perfect union.

Sincerely,

Milton G. Wallin (SGT U.S. Army/ Alaska Army National Guard)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 6:50:13 PM

Hello,

Thank you for taking the time to read this message. My name is Brook and I am writing to you from Anchorage. This is in regards to HB 17, or the Alaska equality act, which would prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexuality, gender identity, and gender expression statewide. This would include employment, housing, and access to public accommodations. I am in strong support of this bill, which would also require the State Commission on Human Rights to investigate discrimination claims that are based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. This is absolutely crucial for the LGBTQ+ community as the protections against discrimination are spotty and scattered statewide. This would send a clear message to the community that they belong and are valued, because this puts protections in place that do not exist for this group otherwise. All Alaskans deserve to live free from harassment and discrimination, regardless of their orientation and identity. Again, I urge you to pass this as it would provide protection and rights that all of your constituents deserve.

Thank you

Brook Beveridge

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Cc: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 6:00:03 PM

I'm writing in support of HB 17 and to urge the Judiciary Committee to take a vote and advance this bill to the full legislature.

Discrimination is not an Alaskan value, and the statute should be modified to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity/expression.

Thank you for your consideration,

Pamela Barbeau

[REDACTED]
Anchorage, AK 99507

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Cc: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Grier Hopkins](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 1:01:22 PM

Dear Representatives Claman, Kreiss-Tomkins, Stutes, LeDoux, Eastman, Kopp, Reinbold, Millet and Zulkosky,

Thank you for your time and effort in considering House Bill 17 that prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression. I ask that you vote on this bill and pass it through the committee. This bill, if made law, will ensure Alaskans are judged according to their abilities and talents and nothing more. The bill support's all Alaskans in living to their full potential without fear of being fired, denied housing, or forbidden services. If passed as legislation, Alaska's laws will be aligned with the anti-discrimination law that has been settled by the US Supreme Court.

Thank you for your attention,
Richard Collins

[REDACTED]
Fairbanks, AK 99709
HD-4/SD-B

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 12:09:47 PM

I strongly urge you to pass this bill and help ensure all Alaskans have fair treatment in jobs or housing regardless of their sexual orientation.

Thank you,
Kathryn Friend
Eagle River voter

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 11:41:50 AM

Please support HB 17.
Pat Madland

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Cc: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 11:41:19 AM

Hello,

I am writing to share that I strongly support taking a vote on HB 17 and pass the bill through the committee. I have experienced employment discrimination in Alaska because of who I am, a transgender man. I was very good at my job, with no bad marks on my employment record. The discrimination however, made it very very difficult to do my job and be effective.

One of the things I love about living in Alaska is how independent we are. We take on hard things and we do a darn good job at what we do. Being able to maintain a job and excel at it is something that supports peoples independence, and this should be no different for anyone based on their LGBTQ status.

Updating the law will ensure that all people in our state are judged on their job performance and qualifications. Nothing more, nothing less. No one should have to live in fear of being legally fired for reasons that have nothing to do with job performance, or denied housing, or services.

Again, I strongly urge the committee to vote to pass HB 17 through to the House.

With Alaskan pride,

Samuel Ohana

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#); [Rep. James Kaufman](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 11:33:35 AM

My name is Grace P. Olrun. I am a resident in Anchorage, House District 28. James Kaufman is my representative.

I support House Bill 17 and urge legislators to support and pass this bill.

There should not be any discrimination towards any human being living or dead based on any criteria. I support the State Commission for Human Rights being given powers and duties to investigate any reports or assertions that an Alaskan resident or visitor is being discriminated against for any reason, including sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.

As long as an Alaskan resident or visitor or guest is human, they have an inherent right given to them by their creator to live free from discrimination.

I urge my representative to vote Yes on HB 17. SHAME on anyone who engages in the mental gymnastics necessary to justify discrimination of other human beings.

Thank you,

Grace P. Olrun

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 11:01:20 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-npggxld3.png](#)

Hello,

My name is Shawn Cooke. I live in Anchorage and am in support of HB 17. It is important that we protect and respect all members of our neighborhoods and communities against discrimination. This amendment further broadens the scope of those protections and is vital to the health and welfare of our communities. I look forward to the passage of the Bill.

Thank you,

Shawna Cooke APRN (she/her)

Clinician 3

Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest and Hawaiian Islands

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ppgnhi.org



From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Cc: [Rep. Sara Rasmussen](#); [Rep. Matt Claman](#); [Sen. Mia Costello](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 10:47:25 AM

Dear Members of the House Judiciary,
Please support HB 17. Please stand by all Alaskans.

That is your job, to support the most vulnerable. We are all Alaskans.

Thank you,

Susan Ritter
Anchorage, AK

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 9:13:39 AM

Good Morning!

My name is Michael Szidloski and I am a resident of Fairbanks Alaska, and I urge the committee to pass HB17. Similar legislation was set to pass in the Fairbanks Borough, but was vetoed by the mayor for a woefully inadequate reasoning: He wanted it to go to a vote of the populace. Historically speaking (and I let his office and him know this), minority protections have *never* been put to a vote of the people, but rather have had legislation moved forward to protect them. From emancipation of slaves, to voting rights for women, to inter-religious and inter-racial marriage, to gay marriage rights and now to trans rights, legislation protecting the rights of the minority have been the norm.

Codifying these protections enjoyed by almost every other group into State law is an important and relevant step to providing equity and equality in the state. I have several friends who are trans, who have good jobs and are productive members of society, why should they have to fear that their leases may be upended out from under them merely because they're trans? Do we really want to backslide, and allow this type of action against minority groups? Many anti-trans legislative attempts in other states, once successful, have paved the way for even more regressive laws being proposed. This includes attempts by several Mississippi state legislators last year attempting to go after inter-racial marriage.

By passing HB 17, we as a state not only provide protections to the trans community enjoyed by every other Alaskan but we also keep from regressing and having our political time and efforts wasted by defending against the various regressive bills that follow bills like SB140. Bills whose sole intent is to divide the American public, to turn us against our neighbors, our friends, our family.

I, for one, am very happy that the committee is giving time and attention to this bill, and happy that we as a state are trying to move forward to be better as a society. To protect the minority groups in our midst, and remind ourselves that they are also Alaskans, our neighbors, our friends, our family. I heartily urge support for HB17.

Thank you again for your time.

~Michael

--

One day posterity will remember, this strange era, these strange times, when ordinary common honesty was called courage. -- Yevgeny Yevtushenko

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 8:44:31 AM

HB 17 House Judiciary March 14, 2022

Dear House Judiciary Representatives:

I'm a 30-year Alaska resident. Since the 1970's I have worked for LGBTQ human rights. Quite a ride. As an 80 year old, I am sorting my saved articles and photos showing our perilous Alaskan LGBTQ journey. Preparing to donate them to museums.

Shocking to review our Alaskan LGBTQ history and the arguments that hostile groups have dreamed up about us. Remember the Juneau gay men sent out of town with one-way ferry tickets. No newspaper coverage.

Remember Anita Bryant, the Florida Orange Juice Queen and her Save The Children....from gays.

Now we really do need to save the children....save the Alaskan trans children from our State legislature ganging up on Alaskan trans girls to prevent them from competing in sports.

All kids agonize over their differences, and ALL Alaskan kids will be harmed by public scrutiny about their genitalia and threatened physical exams.

Currently many state legislatures flare like a cobra with anti trans bills. Think-tanks have dreamed up this new way to target Alaskans - cut trans girl athletes from any competition. Cruel. And our Senate now considers SB 140. 4 hours of public testimony on this cruel bill last Saturday.

Most Alaskans do not want trans girls harmed by SB 140. The majority of Alaskans support us LGBTQ. Time to pass HB 17 out of committee.

Sports helped me get through my schooling. I was shy and unconfident. Field hockey taught me teamwork, hard work, gave me friends and resilience.

Trans athletes competed at the Rio and China Olympics. No problems surfaced. Trans women have been competing for years around the globe. And now the Iditarod. Not many trans winners. Trans girls have not taken over women's sports. No problem here.

A recent and very sad example of Alaskan anti-LGBTQ discrimination: the State of Alaska wrongly denied PFD benefits to same-sex military couples and their kids....for 5 years. From 2014 to 2019. The state got caught in 2019.

More details on this discrimination by AP reporter Mark Thiessen, April 2019, and in my opinion piece in the ADN. Unknown number of Alaskan parents and kids lost their PFDs for 5 years.

I am proud to be a retired State worker but horrified that State officials violated LGBTQ rights FOR 5 YEARS.

Political think-tanks want to make people frightened. Frightened voters will make sure to vote, and frightened people can be made to do anything.

Alaskans are not buying buy this divisive tactic.

As Matthew Shepard's parents, Judy and Dennis, said when they spoke in Juneau, "It's a new day." After their gay son was beaten and hung on a fence to die, they tour the country speaking to parents. Now most Alaskan families know and accept their LGBTQ members. Many now openly talk about their trans relatives. The majority of Alaskans want LGBTQ people to be protected and able to live their daily lives like everyone else.

It's a new day. Let's all work together. Let's be fellow Alaskans working together to solve our daily challenges - villages melting into the sea, infrastructure, better educational opportunities and ways to solve Alaskan domestic violence and violence against women. It's a new day.

Thank you for considering these ideas.

Lin Davis

Juneau resident 30 years

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 7:40:50 AM

Good Morning,

My name is Melissa Syphus of Anchorage, district 27. I am writing to voice my support for house bill 17. This bill will ensure protections for all Alaskans against discrimination in all facets of life. We must protect all Alaskans rights to equal treatment under the law. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Melissa Syphus

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 6:22:03 AM

It is time for Alaska to insure equality for ALL Alaskans. Please do your part by voting and advocating for this important equality legislation. Thank you for your support.

Phyllis Rhodes, Anchorage

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 1:01:16 PM

To the Judiciary Committee,

My name is William Mckenzie and I am a lifelong resident of Fairbanks, Alaska. Thank you for taking the time to read and consider my email along with the many others that are part of this public testimony.

I am writing today to express my fullest support for House Bill 17 that would establish protections for LGBTQ+ individuals from discrimination.

The exclusion of this group of people from our other non-discrimination laws is unjust and goes against all principles of fairness and equality.

LGBTQ+ people face an astonishing amount of discrimination in the workplace. This leads to underperformance at work, lessened employment opportunities, and severe negative impacts on emotional/mental health.

Alaska is a place of diversity and individuality. We value our freedoms, privacy, and right to live life as our best selves. These pillars of a healthy life should never depend on the cultural or religious whims of others and should be protected by the letter of the law.

I ask you, as a lifelong Alaskan in a loving and diverse community, to push ahead with this bill and the spirit of individuality that is behind it.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

William Colin Mckenzie

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Hb 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 9:31:06 AM

I think we are long past due when it comes to evolving protection of all workers. This bill will help Alaska step closer to the era of true freedom for our fellow American, the working class.

Sincerely,
Suki Merica
Indigenous, Non-binary, Fairbankian business owner

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB17 - Please pass this bill out of committee
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 10:03:20 AM

To the Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

As the parent of a gay son and one who is transitioning, this bill is personal. It's become even more personal in just the past few days as we are now going to be housing one of my other son's friends who has been kicked out of his home by his parents for being gay.

All people are born differently from one another. No two are alike. This, I believe we can all agree upon.

Being born with different balances of hormones, and for some, being born intersex, is something they have no control over. This marginalized group is constantly discriminated against. Can you imagine having to defend who you are to everyone you meet, to your family, to your co-workers - every single day?

The State Commission for Human Rights needs the additional powers to help ensure this vulnerable population has support that is guaranteed.

Please pass this bill out of committee.

Thank you for your time,

Putt Clark
Fairbanks

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB-17 Public Comment
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 1:04:19 PM

Hello,

My name is Mary Szatkowski. I live in Fairbanks, AK and am representing myself. I **support HB-17**, The Alaska Equality act. "...prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression" should be a given in the United States of America.

Thank you,
Mary

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB-17 testimony
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 12:35:50 PM

To whom it may concern.

Thank you for reading my email.

My name is Leo Hicker. I am a Fairbanks resident, UAF student, and a proud LGBTQ+ ally. I support LGBTQ+ non-discrimination and urge you to support HB-17 which helps ensure non-discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community in Alaska. I find it absolutely appalling that my queer partner, nor my LGBTQ+ friends, do not have the same rights and protections as I do concerning access to housing, public services, education oppertunities, and so so much more. I believe every American should be afforded the same rights, protections, and opportunities regardless of sex, race, gender, sexual identitiy, gender identity, or otherwise. Again, please support and pass HB-17 to help ensure equal rights for our LGBTQ+ friends, family, and loved ones.

Thank you again for your time,

Leo Hicker

Fairbanks Alaska, 99709.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 12:57:53 PM

To: House Judiciary Committee

I am writing to strongly urge passage of HB 17. Alaska prohibits discrimination based on race, religion, color, national origin, age, sex, disability, and marital status in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodation, and financing practices. However, discrimination against LGBTQ+ citizens is not prohibited.

In a state that ostensibly values privacy and individual rights, it is unthinkable that government would continue to allow discrimination against some of its citizens based on whom they love.

Sincerely,

Martha Freeman
Anchorage

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 8:30:58 AM

Hello,
Please pass Bill HB17 today.

Nadine Meadows
Fairbanks, AK

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB17
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 1:24:59 PM

Hello I am Marina Day,

I live on the lands of the Dena in Fairbanks Alaska. I am for the passage of HB 17.

Alaska is blessed with a diverse populace; yet attacks against Lesbian GayBiTransQueer individuals in Alaska is well documented by Green and Brause in the Identity Reports as early as 1989.

A discrimination Survey released in November of 2011 the organization Identity provides even more evidence of unequal treatment of LGBTQ individuals in employment, housing, education and public services. That is why bills like HB17 are not going away. LGBTQ need protection!

We have a human rights law in this state to secure peace, order, health, safety, and the general welfare of the state and its inhabitants. It is time to extend these rights to all citizens of the state. Especially now when bills are introduced that are unconstitutional and target helpless trans children.

It has become popular to introduce discriminatory bills lately. These Trumpian era fundraising tactics only led to greater hate and disparity.

Some claim it is their religious right to discriminate. It is illegal and dangerous to legislate religion.

When a culture-scape does not include a place for Queer citizens they are attacked, humiliated and forced to exist in the face of stagnation, isolation and systemic erasure. I look forward to a time when labels are removed from humans and all can flourish regardless of their status at birth.

Keep Alaska Great! Eliminate the Hate. Protect and include Alaskan citizens that express themselves as LGBTQ. Pass HB17!

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: HB-17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 5:46:29 PM

My name is Kelly Meierotto. I live in Fairbanks, and I support HB-17 regarding LGBTQ+ non-discrimination. Equality for all is everyone's concern. No one should fear losing their jobs or homes because of their gender or sexual orientation. Trans people in particular have been under attack recently and these protections are needed to ensure they are not targeted by ignorant people. Equality harms no one but benefits everyone.

Please vote in favor of HB-17.


Thank you for your time

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: I support HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 9:52:06 AM

Dear Representatives,

It is far past time our leaders ensure that all Alaskans have equal protections. When people I love can be turned away from jobs, housing, funding, or access to opportunities accessible to others it is not just an injustice to them it is an injustice to all of us. How and who people love, where they or from, or what they look like should not mean doors can close to them because of other people's ignorance or unspoken bias. Please push HB 17 the Anti-Discrimination Bill through the house and let our state again be a bastion of equality and opportunity for everyone. It's good for our economy, it's good for our communities and it's good for our future.

**-Corrina Pariyar
Homer, Alaska**

From: 
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Cc: [Odin B](#)
Subject: I SUPPORT HB17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 10:33:38 AM

Honorable Representatives,

HB17, Alaska's Equality Act, is timely, and it underscores the value that Alaskans put on our diverse, multi-racial and multi-cultural population. Our LGBTQ+ brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters come from all cultural backgrounds here in Alaska. **HB17 COULD BE STRENGTHENED FURTHER FOR ALASKA'S EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND YOUTH SPORTS.** For example, there is currently a bill in the Senate (SB140) that seeks to condemn young athletes who are trying to find their ground. I am a middle school athletics coach and I have been coaching in Alaska for 40 years. You will be amazed how disparate kids come together as a team to initiate tolerance, good sportsmanship, and self determination, all on their own. The level of healthy competition rises along with it. It is normal to see kids seeking to be grounded in their sexual gender. The last thing on their mind is choosing to identify with a gender in which they can exceed their peers in their sport. **It really is a delicate journey for them, and these kids deserve protection.** I am thankful that they value team camaraderie over removing themselves from the team, or contemplating, or even attempting suicide. I urge you to support HB17. Thank you for espousing tolerance and teamwork over condemning young peoples life choices, and those of all Alaskans.

Sincerely,
Odín Brudie, Juneau.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: I Support House Bill 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 9:38:54 AM

Greetings--

I would just like to add my voice, that I support House Bill 17. It is past time that the LGBTQ Community be completely included in all equal rights. Our Pledge of Allegiance says "with freedom and justice to all." That is what we must all strive toward. Thank you. MaryLee Hayes, [REDACTED]
Eagle River, AK 99577 Phone: 907 [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: In support of HB17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 7:30:27 AM

Representatives:

HB17 extends basic anti-discrimination statutory language to include LGBTQ+ Alaskans. It is time—past time—that this bill become law.

Your LGBTQ friends, neighbors and constituents deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,

Cindy Lelake
Anchorage

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 8:55:04 AM

To the House Judiciary Committee,

My name is Crow and I support HB 17. I am a part of many of the different identities and labels, as well as micro labels in the LGBTQ+ community. I support this because all I want is to be treated and seen as what I identify as in public. I want this even if I do not pass as masculine, I still want to be treated as such and be able to go into things made for guys, although if I do then I am at risk of getting hurt or worse, many people are homophobic. If someone is homophobic, chances are then they are transphobic as well, and I do not want to take that chance. While being in this predicament, I have to use the women's bathrooms and locker rooms. I have gotten some weird looks coming out of a stall in a women's bathroom. All I want to do is go into the places that better match my identity and if I don't then I could feel dysphoria in not doing so. I hope to see the day that I could not dread having to go into a bathroom in public, not having to worry if they have a family bathroom, being able to not worry if I do anything remotely feminine, or worry if I am passing enough to not be called a girl or be told to go into the opposite fitting room. I want a future, I want a time where I can go where I want, I want my freedom to I am, to be who I can't help being, I also want to be treated as my cisgender male peers are treated. How am I supposed to get a job while being silenced, how will I be expected to build a future for my life that has barely started if my rights to be who I am are revoked, ones who are cis-het have a whole world out there for them, and us who are LGBTQIA+ are left in the dark, bring us into the world, we may come out, but you guys keep putting us back in, into the darkness of the closet. Back in the closet, just to be able to not be discriminated against, if the roles were reversed would you want to fake who you are in order to build a future, or not be discriminated against, I'm guessing the answer is 'no'. The answer is no for us as well, give us our future, let us come out into the world.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Support HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 12:10:24 PM

Dear House Judiciary Committee,
My name is Katlian Stark, I live in Fairbanks, AK Zip code 99709.
First I want to thank you for your time to read this email.

I support HB 17, the statewide LGBTQ+ non-discrimination bill, and I want to urge you to as well. LGBTQ+ Alaskans are our friends, neighbors, family, and coworkers. When it comes to being able to earn a living, having a place to live, or being served by a business or government office, they should be treated like anyone else and not be discriminated against. LGBTQ+ Alaskans just want to contribute to our state, earn a living, and be able to provide for their families, just like everyone else.

Thank you again for taking the time to read my email, and I hope you have a great day. Once again my name is Katlian Stark, and I live in Fairbanks, Alaska Zip code 99709.
-Katlian

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please support HB17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 1:21:45 PM

Dear Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I live in Kodiak and I am asking you to support passing HB17. This bill is much needed especially in town like mine where discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender expression is common. Earlier this winter an Instagram page "GayPeopleInKHS" dedicated to ostracizing and terrorizing members of our LGBTQ+ community was discovered by Kodiak school administrators. Though these were teenagers running the page, they most likely learned their intolerance and hate from their parents and other adults in their lives. We should not assume that people will be accepting and treat their fellow Alaskans fairly. Alaska needs HB 17 to be passed so that LGBTQI+ Alaskans have legal non-discrimination protections.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Molly Miller
Kodiak

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Regarding HB 17
Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 1:01:24 PM

Dear AK Legislature-

I am a born and raised Alaskan who votes every election, and I support the protection of LGBTQ+ people that HB 17 would help ensure.

Discrimination of any kind has no place in Alaskan politics, law or culture, especially when it is being pushed for by thinly veiled religious opinions. there is no scientific fact that supports discrimination as anything good.

I strongly support the passing of HB 17.

sincerely your constituent,
-Honalee Elkan

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Support for HB 17 - Alaska Equality Act
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 3:27:30 PM

Hello,

I am an Alaska resident who would like to express my resounding support for HB17, the Alaska Equality Act.

It is critical to the health and well-being of our state that every Alaskan is granted equal rights, regardless of a person's sexual orientation or gender identity. Discriminating against people based on sexual orientation or gender is oppressive and causes harm in our communities and work places. Please vote to pass this bill!

Best wishes,

Dr. Jessica Glass

Jessica R. Glass, PhD
Assistant Professor, Fisheries
University of Alaska Fairbanks
College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences
www.jessicaglass.org

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Support for HB 17 Alaska's Equality Act
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 2:02:26 PM

Hey there -

My name is Dan Kiernan. I know it's probably not important but I'm just a straight white guy who lives in Fairbanks. I'm really writing this because these types of things aren't "big rocks" but if they get moved along then maybe one day people who are in office can focus on the things that are not just affecting individuals but also our communities as a whole. In the meantime, it seems fine by me to have people use a whatever gender bathroom - maybe there should be a stipulation that if there's already two genders of bathrooms then there can just be a third restroom available for people who don't identify as those genders - or who identify as a gender not assigned to them at birth.

I don't think you know better, but I don't think I have any good ideas. Nor do I think I know more - but if this is what the people really want and it's worth something to you more than just looking good or following a status quo - then go for it. But hopefully you don't just vote based on personal conviction, one way or the other.

Okay, welp, off to not tell you how to do your job, thanks for your work.
- DK

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Support for HB17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 12:19:28 PM

Dear members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am writing in strong support of HB17. Thanks to all of the co-sponsors for supporting this bill. For brevity's sake, and with respect despite it's flippant nature:

Equal rights for others does not mean less rights for you. It's not pie.

Sincerely,
Rachel Lord
Homer
907-[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Support HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 11:33:31 AM

Dear Committee,

I wholeheartedly support HB 17, a bill to prevent discrimination of our LGBTQ community.

No person should live in fear based on our differences. Alaska should be a place of safety and freedom, not one with laws being fueled by discrimination and fear.

Thank you for your consideration. Please pass this bill from committee.

Sincerely,
Lynda Giguere
[REDACTED]
Douglas, AK

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Support HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 11:12:24 AM

Good morning,

I encourage you to support HB 17 and to create legal protections for Alaska's LGBTQ residents. It's long past time that Alaska does so, and creating these protections is the right thing to do.

Thank you,

Stephanie Haskins
Fairbanks, Alaska

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Support HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 3:42:29 PM

It is critical that we support HB 17 to protect the rights of the GLBTQ community. As a long time Alaska I want you to know I fully support this bill. My name is Marianne Rolland and I have lived in Anchorage for 22 years. Thank you!
Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Cc: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#)
Subject: support HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 11:39:22 AM

To: Members of the House Judiciary Committee

I support of HB 17 which adds "sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression" to Alaska's existing anti-discrimination law.

I urge you to vote and advance this legislation.

Thank you for considering this important legislation so that individuals cannot be fired or denied housing or services for reasons that are contrary to the idea of equal treatment under law.

Gina Ashman
Anchorage, AK
District 25

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#); [Rep. Matt Claman](#); [Rep. Liz Snyder](#); [Rep. Harriet Drummond](#); [Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins](#); [Rep. David Eastman](#); [Rep. Christopher Kurka](#); [Rep. Sarah Vance](#)
Subject: SUPPORT HB17 STATEWIDE LGBTQ+ NON-DISCRIMINATION
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 4:11:11 PM

to whom it may concern

my name is steve moore, i live in 99508. i appreciate you taking the time to read this e-mail regarding my support for house bill 17 regarding statewide lgbtq+ non-discrimination.

i support hb17 because i support equality and fairness, and this bill would afford these things to our lgbtq+ co-workers, friends, family, and neighbors. this community deserves the exact same ability to earn a living, have a safe place to live, or receive the same level of service from businesses or government offices. discrimination against the lgbtq+ community is unacceptable.

without strong protections in-place our lgbtq+ pals face consequences; in a national survey, 44% of lgbtq+ respondents said they've faced discrimination at work including 97% of our transgender friends, 25% of whom have been unjustly fired due to their gender identity. this results in many lgbtq+ workers choosing to hide their identities instead; fear of discrimination also leads lgbtq+ americans to be paid less and see fewer employment opportunities overall compared to straight workers, causing increased risk for poor physical and mental health.

nobody deserves to fear the loss of their home for any reason, especially their sexual orientation or gender identity. businesses that support anti-discrimination policies can tell you it results in greater worker productivity and a larger pool of talent for recruitment. lgbtq+ alaskans are the same as anyone else, they just want a spot at the table and a chance to work and provide for their families.

please support the passage of hb17 and offer the same basic dignity straight society receives to our lgbtq+ family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers.

thanx

-steve moore, 99508

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#); [Rep. Matt Claman](#); [Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. David Eastman](#); [Sen. Lora Reinbold](#); [Rep. Tiffany Zulkosky](#)
Subject: Support/testimony for HB17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 1:45:22 PM

Greetings to the House Judiciary Committee:

I am a 40 year old woman who is calling to express my deep support of HB17.

I did not know my own personal queer-ness until my late 20s, when I was pleasantly surprised to fall in love with another person of the same sex. Even at that age, I found so much beautiful support from my family, friends and community.

I read this bill yesterday and thank you all for sponsoring it.

This bill creates an opportunity to be proactive, and protective, in increasingly challenging times for the state's LGBTQ+ citizens whose fairly newly-achieved human rights have never stopped being....challenged.

This tremendous state deeply values individual freedom and privacy - perhaps more than any other - and with that, and people in mind, including my nonbinary partner and myself -

I urge our elected officials in the 49th state to ensure that this includes the greater - the great and growing - Alaskan LGBTQ community.

- Jessica in the Denali borough

P.S. It's incredibly troubling that three members of this committee do not have email addresses listed on their AK Leg informational pages.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Cc: [Lin Davis](#)
Subject: YES on HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 12:43:21 PM

As a physician and lifetime member of the American Academy of Family Physicians and an Alaska physician of 30 years I direct you to the evidence-based recommendations of the American Medical Association. Citing how discrimination and feelings of inequality contribute to the increased abuse, mental health upset, drug abuse and suicide in our LGBTQ children, teens and adults as evidence, they state on their website: "The American Medical Association (AMA) supports the equal rights, privileges and freedom of all individuals and opposes discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, religion, disability, ethnic origin, national origin or age."

It is obvious how discrimination against any individual or any group of individuals, contributes to dis-ease and social unrest among us all. Please for the health of our community, and individuals in it, vote YES on HB 17. This bill is not about special rights, it simply seeks to grant and protect Equal Rights to all without exception. The AMA, the AAFP and the Alaska Association of Family Physicians are only three of the numerous national professional organizations who support your action to fully support Equal Rights to include protection of LGBTQ Equal Rights.

Dr. Maureen Longworth, M.D.

[REDACTED]
Juneau, AK 99802

907 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Cc: [Rep. Andy Josephson](#)
Subject: Yes to HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 1:20:17 PM

Hello:

I am writing in support of House Bill (HB) 17, the statewide inclusive anti-discrimination bill sponsored by Rep. Andy Josephson. A good society would treat all humans equally and fairly, but for the most part, America is run by corrupt, sociopaths and all they do is line their own pockets, as the planet dies. Everything suffers & dies: the trees, animals, plants and most humans because we have a lousy, poor, incompetent, corrupt government. A good government would already provide laws to protect all people from discrimination, but our bad gov't relishes in it. Most people want equality, but the rich folks in America don't and the politician's strings are pulled only by them. People are always screwed in America. We live a life of lies, that there is greatness here, all America is great at is: lying, destroying, killing and corruption. I'm sick of it, many of us are. Would be nice if you did your job and delivered something to the people, but your busy doing the bidding of the rich and getting all its perks. Around and around, we go. America failed, Republicans failed, Democrats failed and humanity failed. Wow aren't we great?

April Woods

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Cc: [Rep. Sara Rasmussen](#); [Rep. Matt Claman](#); [Sen. Mia Costello](#)
Subject: HB 17
Date: Monday, March 14, 2022 10:47:26 AM

Dear Members of the House Judiciary,
Please support HB 17. Please stand by all Alaskans.

That is your job, to support the most vulnerable. We are all Alaskans.

Thank you,

Susan Ritter
Anchorage, AK

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: FW: Public Testimony in support of HB17
Date: Thursday, March 24, 2022 12:42:03 PM

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Nels Olson <nolson15@alaska.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2022 12:35 PM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>
Subject: Public Testimony in support of HB17

Dear Representative Andy Josephson,

My name is Nels Olson and I work as an elementary school social worker for the Juneau School District, in Juneau, Alaska. I work to combat bullying by educating and providing children with safe spaces for expression so that they may maximize their learning environments. I am writing to provide testimony in support of passing HB 17.

As I am sure you are aware, American youth and young adults who identify as LGBTQ face a 120% greater chance at becoming homeless because of lack of family support (Morton et al., 2017; Morton et al., 2018). Additionally, youth from this population have a higher suicide rate and are bullied more often at school than their cis-gender and gender conforming classmates (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services). Passing HB 17 sends precedence to our youth, that they can grow up in an environment where they will not be discriminated against on the basis of their sexuality, gender identity, and gender expression.

As an elementary school social worker, I know how important ensuring students' safety is in improving their learning outcomes. HB 17 helps to ensure that children have a brighter future, where they can safely grow up in Alaska, where discrimination on the basis of sexuality, gender identity, and gender expression is prohibited. Thank you for sponsoring this bill.

Respectfully,

Nels Olson

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Sunday, March 20, 2022 1:12:54 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is Mycah, and I am a member and ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,
Mycah Willis

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Sunday, March 20, 2022 12:40:52 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is Myranda Barkowski, and I am a member of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans have the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,
Myranda Barkowski

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Sunday, March 20, 2022 8:31:50 AM

Dear Representatives,

My name is Leah Haskell-Cummins, and I am a member and ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Sunday, March 20, 2022 2:38:02 AM

Dear Representatives,

My name is _Angel Collins_, and I am a member and ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,
Angel Collins

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022 10:10:27 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is Hannah Schlosstein, and I am an ally of the queer community in Alaska. When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans have the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Thank you,
Hannah

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022 10:10:02 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is __Marrisa Peterson_____, and I am a member and ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Marrisa Peterson
Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022 10:09:14 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is _tressa furner _____, and I am a member and ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022 9:55:10 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is Emma Zink Hatcher, and I am an ally of the queer community in Alaska. It was unbelievable to me when I learned this year that Alaska is one of the states that doesn't have legal protections against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender expression. In a state where individuality is otherwise celebrated, this relic of darker times should be an embarrassment to our state that compels swift action to include these aspects of human identities in non-discrimination law.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. Please stand up for your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families, and do the right thing by supporting HB 17.

Sincerely,
Emma Zink Hatcher

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022 8:58:44 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is ___Sylvia Angnabooguk_, and I am a member and ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,
Sylvia

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022 7:45:30 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is ____TatianaDiamond king_____, and I am a member and ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,

TatianaDiamond King

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022 7:39:39 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is _____ Tauna Hatch _____, and I am a member and ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022 7:38:06 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is Amanda Filori, and I am a member and ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Amanda Filori

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022 7:37:40 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is Danielle Rogers , and I am a member and ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,
Danielle rogers

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022 6:42:13 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is Kirstin Selvig, and I am a member and ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022 6:40:20 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is Chalalin Giron, and I am a member and ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression. Equality belongs to all of us.

This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Chalalin Giron

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022 6:39:54 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is __Sandi Hicks_____, and I am a member and ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression. Please keep my family safe from harm.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Sandi.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022 6:39:02 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is Kendra Hergett. and I am a member and ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Kendra Hergett

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17!
Date: Monday, March 21, 2022 12:27:58 PM

Dear Representatives,

My name is Jessy Goodman , and I am an ally of the queer community in Alaska.

When it comes to a safe workplace, a safe place to live, safe schools and the ability to access public accommodations and government services, Alaskans the right to do so free of harm or discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression.

Equality belongs to all of us. This is a nonpartisan issue and has real life impacts on your constituents. We are your neighbors, your friends, your coworkers and your families. Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,
Jessy Goodman
Writing Center director, UAS Juneau

From: [REDACTED]
To: [House Judiciary](#)
Subject: Please Pass HB 17
Date: Friday, March 18, 2022 7:07:32 AM

All Alaskan are deserving of respect and non-discrimination. We're still dealing with the effects of discrimination against Alaskan Natives, don't add discrimination to LGBTQ people to our future regrets.

Passing HB 17 and ensuring that sexual orientation and gender identify are included in Alaska's non-discrimination laws is the right thing to do.

Melanie Hadaway
Fairbanks, AK