



April 13, 2016

The Honorable Stanley Rosenberg  
 Senate President  
 State House, Room 332  
 Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Robert DeLeo  
 Speaker of the House  
 State House, Room 356  
 Boston, MA 02133

Dear Senate President Rosenberg and Speaker DeLeo,

We write to urge the Massachusetts Legislature to take a favorable vote now on H1577/S735, *An Act Relative to Transgender Anti-Discrimination*.

Four years ago, Massachusetts banned discrimination against transgender people in employment, housing, education, and credit. It is time to finish that work and ensure that transgender people are also protected from discrimination in public places. Transgender people should be able to ride a bus, go to a movie, or visit a restaurant without fear of harassment or unequal treatment.

Transgender employees and customers deserve to feel safe and welcome in Massachusetts. They deserve dignity and respect. The widespread national outrage over the discriminatory laws recently signed in North Carolina and Mississippi, as well as a legislative proposal passed in

Georgia, demonstrates the strong support for full LGBT equality among both the business community and the broader public.

Promoting equality is not just the right thing to do – it is also good for business. Discriminatory laws make it harder for companies and regions to recruit talented employees, attract customers, and build a thriving economy. That is why more than 200 companies have endorsed this bill.

We are proud to stand with the transgender community, and we urge you to stand with us.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Business Leadership  
Apple Inc.  
Au Bon Pain  
Bella Luna Restaurant/Milky Way Lounge  
Biogen Inc.  
Boston Foundation  
Cambridge Eats and Beats  
Cambridge Innovation Center  
CeltiCare Health  
Eastern Bank  
EMC  
Facebook  
Glove Cleaners Inc.  
Google  
Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce  
Harvard Pilgrim HealthCare  
Hill Holliday  
InkHouse  
John Hancock  
J.P. Licks  
Korn Ferry  
Liberty Mutual Insurance  
Locke Lord  
Massachusetts Association of Health Plans  
Massachusetts Business Roundtable  
Massachusetts Nurses Association  
Massachusetts Restaurant Association  
MassBIO  
MassChallenge  
MassMutual Financial Group  
Microsoft  
National Grid  
New England Venture Capital Association  
Partners HealthCare

Reinventure Capital  
Salesforce  
State Street  
Suffolk Construction  
TD Garden  
Techstars  
Uber  
Zipcar