



STATE OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
120 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10271

ERIC T. SCHNEIDERMAN  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

(212) 416-8050

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The Honorable John Boehner  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
H. 232 – U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

On Thursday, November 7, 2013, the United States Senate passed the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (“ENDA”). As the Attorneys General for the states of New York, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts Minnesota, Nevada, Oregon, Vermont and Washington, we respectfully request that you bring the bill to the floor of the House of Representatives for a vote.

Equal protection under the law is a fundamental American principle that transcends state and party lines. But this principle has yet to be reached for millions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (“LGBT”) Americans living across the country and in many of our states. In the absence of a federal anti-discrimination law, LGBT individuals are unevenly at risk of discrimination that could threaten their livelihoods, depending upon the states or localities in which they live. Today, in twenty-nine states, lesbian, gay, and bisexual individuals can be fired or denied employment solely because of their sexual orientation. In thirty-three states, transgender individuals face these same risks to their employment and security because of their gender identity.

Passage of ENDA would be a historic step in remedying these ongoing moral and economic wrongs. It would also be in keeping with public opinion and the actions of the business community. Recent opinion polling indicates nearly three out of four Americans – 73% – support passage of ENDA, as do majorities in every single state. Furthermore, corporate America has largely accepted this as good policy: most Fortune 500 companies have adopted such internal anti-discrimination policies.

As the chief law enforcement officers for our states, we are tasked with promoting equal protection and equal opportunity for our residents. For those of us representing states that currently lack state anti-discrimination statutes covering LGBT individuals, ENDA is an essential tool that would further assist us in doing our jobs. For those of us representing states that do have such statutes, it has been our experience that these protections yield only positive benefits for our states, and the common arguments raised against ENDA – *e.g.*, harm to businesses or frivolous lawsuits – have not materialized.

We hope you will consider these perspectives in the coming weeks and urge you to bring this historic bill to the floor for a vote.

Sincerely,

Eric T. Schneiderman  
New York State Attorney General

Kamala Harris  
California Attorney General

George Jepsen  
Connecticut Attorney General

Beau Biden  
Delaware Attorney General

David M. Louie  
Hawaii Attorney General

Lisa Madigan  
Illinois Attorney General

**Tom Miller**  
**Iowa Attorney General**

**Janet Mills**  
**Maine Attorney General**

**Martha Coakley**  
**Massachusetts Attorney General**

**Lori Swanson**  
**Minnesota Attorney General**

**Catherine Cortez Masto**  
**Nevada Attorney General**

**Ellen F. Rosenblum**  
**Oregon Attorney General**

**William Sorrell**  
**Vermont Attorney General**

**Bob Ferguson**  
**Washington Attorney General**