



## League of United Latin American Citizens

April 2, 2014

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U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Member of Congress:

On behalf of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), the country's largest and oldest Hispanic organization, I urge you to support H.R. 1755, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 2013 (ENDA). This crucial bipartisan legislation seeks to ensure that a person cannot be fired or denied work solely because of how they identify or whom they love - millions across the country are currently vulnerable to this form of unjust discrimination.

As a civil rights organization, LULAC has strongly championed the need for strong worker protections. In July 2009, for example, over 900 delegates from the LULAC National Assembly convened and passed a resolution calling on Congress and the President to enact ENDA. Our resolution noted the overwhelming public support for these LGBT workplace protections. Indeed, according to a recent poll by Bendixen & Amadi, 80% of Latinos believe that LGBT people often face discrimination, and 83% support employment protections.

LULAC also recently teamed with LGBT organizations to produce a report called, "*A Look at Latino/a Respondents in the National Transgender Discrimination Survey*." This study shows how devastating multiple discrimination is for Latino and Latina transgender people. Among the key findings:

- Latino/a transgender people had a very high unemployment rate at 20 percent, higher than the overall transgender sample (14 percent) and nearly three times the rate of the general population at the time the survey was fielded (7 percent).

- Latino/a transgender people often live in extreme poverty with 28 percent reporting a household income of less than \$10,000/year. This is nearly double the rate for transgender people of all races (15 percent), over five times the general Latino/a population rate (5 percent), and seven times the general U.S. population rate (4 percent). The rate for Latino/a non-citizen respondents was 43 percent.

ENDA will address these deplorable workplace outcomes by giving all Americans a fair shot to contribute to our economy regardless of their gender identity or sexual orientation. Therefore, we call on you to support H.R. 1755, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 2013.

Sincerely,

Brent A. Wilkes  
LULAC National Executive Director

[The link on the polling is here: <http://www.lgbtmap.org/file/talking-about-lgbt-equality-with-latinos-and-hispanics.pdf>]