

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 3, 2013

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

Mr. Speaker,

On 7 November 2013, the United States Senate passed S. 815, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 2013 (ENDA) by a bipartisan vote of 64 to 32. As cosponsors of H.R. 1755 – the House's companion legislation, we respectfully encourage you to bring this timely and commonsense legislation to a vote before the House of Representatives before the end of the 113th Congress.

An innate sense of fairness compels our country to rise above all forms of workplace discrimination. ENDA would help us move towards this goal in a manner that balances worker protections with respect for religious employers. Keeping with the notion that employees should be judged on their merits alone, the bill explicitly prohibits preferential treatment or hiring quotas. We are not seeking special privileges – just equal protections.

Job discrimination against any American creates an uneven playing field that runs contrary to the basic notion of equality and our economic efficiency. What matters most is not that we share the exact same beliefs as our coworkers or employees, but that we take pride in our work, respect our coworkers and customers, and get the job done.

It is our hope that this legislation will be brought to the House Floor – to allow the members to vote as they see fit – and demonstrate to the American people that Congress can work in a bipartisan manner on an important issue of fairness.

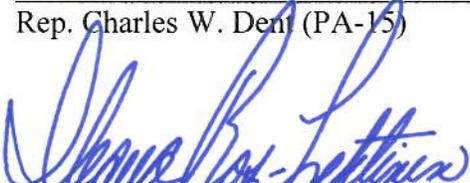
Sincerely,



Rep. Charles W. Dent (PA-15)



Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney (NY-18)

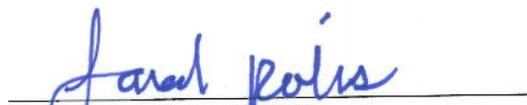


Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL-27)



Rep. Kyrsten Sinema (AZ-9)


Rep. Richard L. Hanna (NY-22)


Rep. Jared Polis (CO-2)


Rep. Jon Runyan (NJ-3)


Rep. Kurt Schrader (OR-5)


Rep. Chris Gibson (NY-19)


Rep. Ron Kind (WI-5)