

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

June 11, 2019

The Honorable Mike R. Pompeo  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C St. NW  
Washington, DC 20520

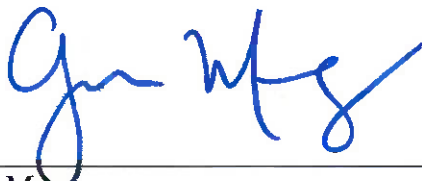
Dear Secretary Pompeo:

We are highly concerned by the Department's rejection of requests by U.S. Embassies to fly rainbow flags in honor of LGBT Pride Month. This policy denies U.S. missions the opportunity to show support for the LGBT community – both in country and within the walls of our embassies. We strongly urge the State Department to reverse its position and immediately allow for these flags to be flown.

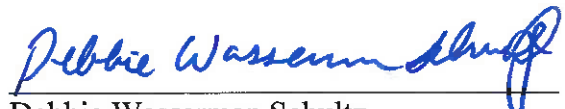
In too many countries around the world, LGBT individuals are systematically discriminated against, and receive no protection from law enforcement. To bar this flag from U.S. Embassies is to condone the discriminatory policies of many countries around the world. In 2018, all requests for permission to display rainbow pride flags were granted. In 2019, all requests for permission have been denied. This sharp pivot in the implementation of this policy is concerning and contradicts the diplomatic corps' work to support LGBT rights overseas.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,



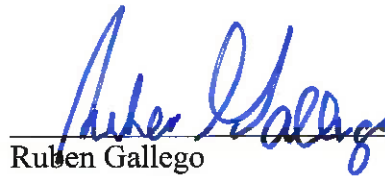
Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



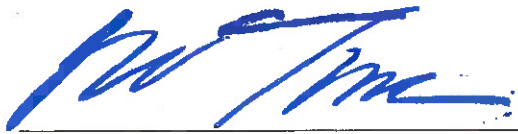
Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
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Barbara Lee  
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Ruben Gallego  
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David J. Trone  
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Mike Quigley  
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Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline  
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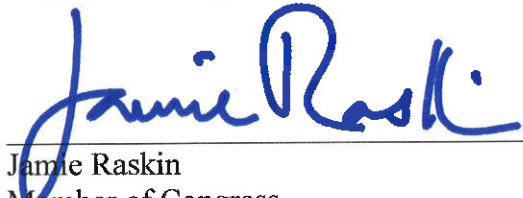
Gilbert R. Cisneros Jr.  
Member of Congress



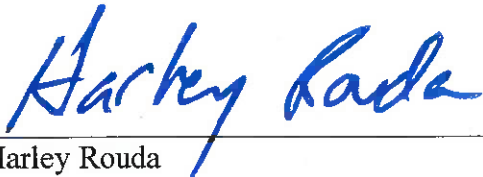
Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



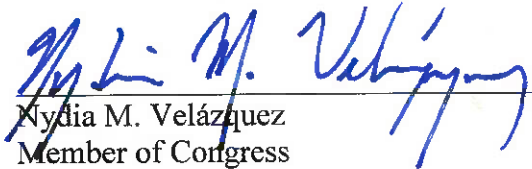
Pramila Jayapal  
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Jamie Raskin  
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Harley Rouda  
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Nydia M. Velázquez  
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Chris Pappas  
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Mark Pocan  
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Katie Hill  
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Brian Higgins  
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Raúl M. Grijalva  
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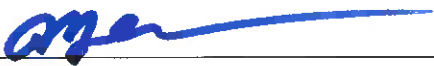
Alan Lowenthal  
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Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



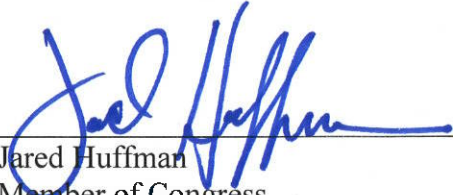
Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



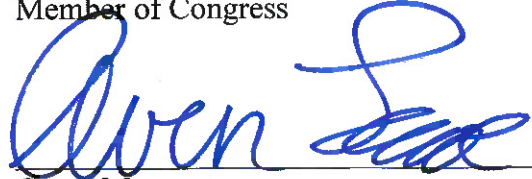
Max Rose  
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Ayanna Pressley  
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Jared Huffman  
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Gwen Moore  
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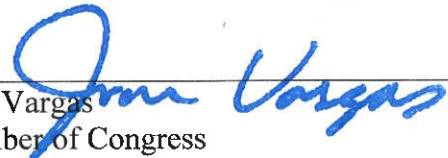
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Joseph P. Kennedy, III  
Member of Congress



Bill Foster  
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Juan Vargas  
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Bradley S. Schneider  
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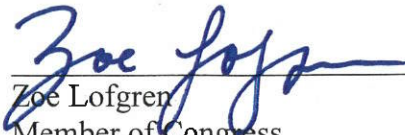
Jennifer Wexton  
Member of Congress



Theodore E. Deutch  
Member of Congress



Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



Eliot L. Engel  
Member of Congress



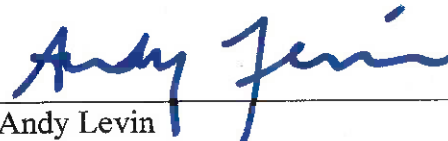
Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



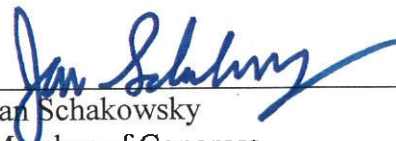
Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



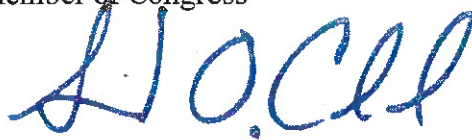
Andy Levin  
Member of Congress



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



Salud O. Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu  
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Sean Patrick Maloney  
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