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For Immediate Release

The City of Milwaukee Equal Rights Commission Condemns Supreme Court Decision on Transgender Military Service

The City of Milwaukee Equal Rights Commission (ERC) commends the justices who chose to protect the rights of transgender patriots and condemns those who chose to turn back the clock and revoke civil rights protections through this decision.

To deny transgender service members – who put their lives on the line for us – dishonors all members of the military and our American values. Trump’s policy is intentionally designed to humiliate the more than 13,000 transgender people who are serving with honor.

The military is this country’s largest single employer of transgender people. As a result of the ban, thousands of transgender people – who may ultimately face dismissal – would lose access to employment and health care.

Multiple federal courts have recognized that excluding qualified individuals simply because they are transgender is contrary to basic constitutional principles of equality and fairness.

The ERC stands with our transgender troops and denounces this dangerous and discriminatory policy. Their patriotism and sacrifice should be celebrated, not cruelly dismissed based on a characteristic that has no relevance to their fitness to serve. If you are willing to risk your life for our nation and you can do the job, you should be able to serve.

The ERC continues to work to protect our transgender community and all people by promoting equal rights and enforcing local protections in housing, employment, and public accommodations.

Chez Ordoñez, Acting Chair

Tony Snell, Commissioner • Martha Collins, Commissioner • Sheila Ashley, Commissioner • Mayhoua Moua, Commissioner
Jennifer Bennett, Commissioner • Reginald Jackson, Commissioner • Nathan Guequierre, Commissioner

City Hall

200 E. Wells Street • Room 606 • Milwaukee, WI 53202

414-286-5532

Jessica Langill, Equal Rights Specialist

