

July 26, 2017
Eric Babson
babson@math.ucdavis.edu
1094 Cragmont Avenue
Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am very concerned by bigotry against transgender people. Your hasty announcement today is a mistake. Trans people face attacks and murder at rates well above the national average. Your loathsome order and the similar comments by a few congress members will encourage these attacks. This is particularly true within the military so that you have with only a few tweets made our military less cohesive. Thousands of trained soldiers will now end their careers early so that you have made our military less prepared. Removing, screening and retraining people will be vastly more expensive than any costs associated with transgender health care so you have made our military more expensive. Official bigotry damages our international standing so you have made our military less respected. It is reported that this order was made impulsively, with no consultation with the military. This is no way to run even a family business, much less the worlds most powerful military.

Please assure me that you will begin to think before you act.

I am very proud to be a US citizen and a large part of that derives from our moral world leadership.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson