

August 27, 2017  
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Dear Mr Vice President:

I am very concerned by attacks on transgender Americans. This week the rules for transgender soldiers were derailed. The military typically writes regulations with care and a RAND study found that the biggest problem here was an unclear regulatory environment, which they were on track to fix in July. While the president claimed to have consulted with generals on this issue, reports suggest that it was rather you and a previous employee (Mr Bannon) who were consulted. This attack will have several effects. It will embolden the most vicious and radical in our society to threaten and physically attack transgender Americans as the violence on display at rallies around the country is attesting. It will damage our military readiness, forcing people to hide their status, creating burdensome judicial proceedings and removing trained personnel from their posts. This has been seen with allowing gays to serve openly, where your various warnings of destroyed unit cohesion have failed to materialize. Most importantly it is immoral and damages the moral authority of the US government by viciously attacking the most vulnerable of its own citizens.

*Please assure me that you will take a moral stand and stop attacking transgender Americans.*

I am very proud to be a US citizen and a large part of that derives from our egalitarian society.

Sincerely,  
Eric Babson