



Governor Pat McCrory  
North Carolina Office of the Governor  
20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Dear Governor McCrory,

I am writing to express my organization's strong opposition to the Public Facilities Privacy & Security Act, or any measure that discriminates against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people. In addition to being objectively inhumane, discriminatory laws create an unfriendly business environment and diminish our ability to attract talented individuals to join our workforce.

National Co+op Grocers (NCG) conducts significant commerce in North Carolina. We represent 148 food co-ops nationwide operating over 200 community owned grocery stores – including ten stores in North Carolina – with combined annual sales over \$1.8 billion. In addition to our North Carolina retail stores, NCG recently established a new office in Carrboro which will house seven full time, paid benefit positions.

Prior to learning about the Public Facilities Privacy & Security Act, we were excited to celebrate the new office and projected growth by introducing our larger organization to the Chapel Hill area. We anticipated that NCG conferences would bring nearly 1000 people to North Carolina and result in over half a million dollars in hotel and catering sales. In direct conflict with our organization's values, we are now in the position of bringing our staff and members to a state in which we cannot protect them from discrimination. In response to this discriminatory law, we have received several requests from within our organization to relocate these events and close the Carrboro office.

NCG is committed to equal opportunity employment practices and believes diversity is a critical key to our success. Given our commitment to equality, diversity, and basic human rights, we must now strongly reconsider our current and future investment in North Carolina. While we understand the law is currently being challenged in the courts, we urge North Carolina to voluntarily repeal it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robynn Shrader".

Robynn Shrader  
Chief Executive Officer, NCG