

March 23, 2016

To: BB&T, Branch Banking & Trust Co.

200 West Second Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Kelly S. King, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Christopher L. Henson, Chief Operating Officer
Ricky K. Brown, President and President of Community Banking
Dayrl N. Bible, Senior Executive VP and Chief Financial Officer
Clarke R. Starnes, Senior Executive VP and Chief Risk Officer
Stephen B. Wiggs, Senior Executive VP and Chief Marketing Officer
Cynthia A. Williams, Senior Executive VP and Chief Communications Officer
Robert J. Johnson Jr., Senior Executive VP and General Counsel
W. Bennett Bradley, Senior Executive VP and Chief Digital Officer

Dear BB&T Chairman and Board Executives,

Just over a month ago, the city of Charlotte, North Carolina passed an ordinance providing new legal protections from discrimination for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

These new legal protections mean that as of April 1st businesses in Charlotte can't discriminate against lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender customers, in addition to long-standing protections based on race, age, religion and gender. The ordinance applies to places of public accommodation, such as bars, restaurants and stores. It also applies to taxis.

Immediately after passage of the new city ordinance many within the North Carolina legislature began advocating for statewide legislative action to block local governments from enacting their own nondiscrimination protections. When North Carolina's Governor Pat McCrory and Senate Majority Leader Phil Berger announced that they would not convene a special session of the legislature to address new legislation, the legislature took it upon themselves to convene a special session. **That special session started today at 10am.**

As the second largest corporation based in North Carolina, and one that proudly protects lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender employees through nondiscrimination protections, LGBTQ inclusive employee health plans, and employee diversity trainings, we greatly appreciate your commitment to our community. Our coalition of organizations led by Equality North Carolina, Campus Pride, and One Million Kids For Equality respectfully request that you stand with us and publicly denounce the special session to repeal these very important protections for LGBTQ individuals within your community.

Signed,

Matt Hirschy, Equality North Carolina
Shane Windmeyer, Campus Pride
Brad Delaney, One Million Kids For Equality
Charles Chan Massey, The Personal Stories Project
Faith Cheltenham, BiNet USA
Mark Snyder, Equality Federation