

From: Amy  
Date: Nov 5, 2007 4:56 PM  
Subject: Re: Bill 23-07  
To: "Trachtenberg's Office, Councilmember" <Councilmember.Trachtenberg@montgomerycountymd.gov

Dear Councilmember Trachtenberg,

Thank you for your response. However, it still does not deal with the specific issue of transgender people having access to women's facilities including restrooms, showers, etc. With all due respect, as a wife, mother and former educator, this is not acceptable to me. I believe that transgender people should be treated with respect. But, if accommodations need to be made for them in the area of bathroom and shower facilities, for example, and the council values that so highly, separate funds should be provided to construct such separate facilities for transgender people.

I would also disagree with you that this is not radical legislation. This is the first time anyone I have spoke to has heard about it. I follow the news faithfully and have never seen it reported in the press. I find it quite radical. And so do many people in the county I have spoke to. They have responded with shock and dismay when I have shared the news with them. I would be interested to see something reported about this legislation in the media via The Washington Post or Times, Gazette, press releases, etc. Otherwise, it appears that the issue is being hidden from the people of Montgomery County in order to be passed quietly by the Council. I hope this is not so.

Sincerely, Amy (last name removed)

---

On 11/5/07, Trachtenberg's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Trachtenberg@montgomerycountymd.gov wrote:

Dear Ms. <last name removed>:

Thank you for writing to me about my legislation to protect the rights of transgender residents of Montgomery County. I introduced the bill because transgender people face serious discrimination, not only in the workplace, but also in housing, business and banking transactions, and in public accommodations.

Everyone deserves to live and work with equality and dignity. No one should lose a job, or be denied a place to live, because of their gender identity or expression. It's essential that counties like Montgomery County take action on the local level because, so far, most courts have not found that laws prohibiting sexual orientation or gender discrimination apply to transgender people.

This is not radical legislation. In fact, over 100 U.S. jurisdictions have already passed similar legislation, covering 37% of this country's population. This includes 13 states plus the District of Columbia.

I'm glad you're interested in this issue enough to add your voice to the debate, and I hope that you'll write me again in the future if there are other issues that concern you. In the meantime, please continue to pay close attention to what my colleagues and I on the County Council are doing by visiting our website, [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council), or watching Council news and meetings on Montgomery County Cable TV.

Thank you again for your interest and advocacy.

Cordially, Duchy Trachtenberg

---

From: Amy  
Date: Nov 2, 2007 4:10 PM  
Subject: Bill 23-07  
To: [councilmember.praisner@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:councilmember.praisner@montgomerycountymd.gov), Cc: [councilmember.andrews@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:councilmember.andrews@montgomerycountymd.gov), [ocemail@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:ocemail@montgomerycountymd.gov), [councilmember.trachtnerberg@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:councilmember.trachtnerberg@montgomerycountymd.gov), [gmacdonald@gazette.net](mailto:gmacdonald@gazette.net), [letters@washingtontimes.com](mailto:letters@washingtontimes.com), [letters@washpost.com](mailto:letters@washpost.com)

To all members of the Montgomery County Council,

I am not in favor of Bill 23-07. If you value supporting transgender males by allowing them to use facilities designated for females, my suggestion would be to provide the funds and build separate facilities for them. I am extremely concerned about this bill. One among many issues that concerns me as a married woman and mother is sexual predators and voyeurism. We battle this every day in our society. Please do not contribute more to it. I urge you not to vote for this bill!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Amy <last name removed>