

January 8, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-232 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer  
House Majority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-107 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James Clyburn  
House Majority Whip  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-329 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Hoyer and Majority Whip Clyburn,

We, the undersigned leadership of civil rights and social justice organizations are writing to applaud the historic advancement of legislation in the 116th Congress. Under your leadership, the House has passed vital civil rights protections for women, working people, people of color, voters, the LGBTQ community and immigrants. As a result of the House passage of the Violence Against Women Act, the Voting Rights Advancement Act, the Equality Act, the Raise the Wage Act, the Paycheck Fairness Act, and the Dream and Promise Act, countless Americans see the House of Representatives as a defender of fundamental rights that are under attack by the current administration and in the courts.

For three years now, thousands of American Muslim families have been separated because of the Muslim ban. We applaud the recent joint hearing in the Judiciary and Foreign Affairs Committees which highlighted the tragic stories of the victims of this discriminatory policy. We urge you to schedule a mark-up and House vote on the NO BAN Act (H.R. 2214), which has the support of more than 200 co-sponsors, 400 organizations and members of the business community. One of President Trump's first acts of office was to enact a Muslim ban that has cruelly separated countless American families and fomented a wave of anti-Muslim bigotry. The NO BAN Act would stop the Muslim ban and also prevent future discriminatory bans. Furthermore, House passage of this bill would be historic as the only time in memory that any house of Congress has ever advanced a bill specifically to protect the rights of American Muslims.

Congress must vigorously defend the rights of American Muslims. American Muslims are our constituents: working people, women, LGBTQ people, people of color, immigrants, and voters. The civil rights of Muslims should be prioritized along with other foundational civil rights issues we all hold dear.

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We thank you for your consideration. For more information please reach out to Muslim Advocates Deputy Director Naheed Qureshi at 202-897-2622 or [naheed@muslimadvocates.org](mailto:naheed@muslimadvocates.org).

Sincerely,

Rea Carey  
Executive Director  
National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund

Kristen Clarke  
President & Executive Director  
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

Stosh Cotler  
CEO  
Bend the Arc Jewish Action

Alphonso B. David  
President  
Human Rights Campaign (HRC)

Rahna Epting  
Executive Director  
MoveOn

Fatima Goss Graves  
President & CEO  
National Women's Law Center

Vanita Gupta  
President & CEO  
The Leadership Conference on Civil & Human Rights

Sherrilyn Ifill  
President & Director-Counsel  
NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.

Cristina Jimenez  
Co-Founder & Executive Director  
United We Dream

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CEO  
National Council of Jewish Women

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Executive Director  
National Center for Transgender Equality

Farhana Khera  
President & Executive Director  
Muslim Advocates

Rabbi Jonah Dov Pesner  
Director  
Religious Action Center

Hilary Shelton  
Director  
NAACP Washington Bureau

cc:

Rep. Ben Ray Luján, Assistant Speaker of the House  
Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, Chair, House Democratic Caucus  
Rep. Katherine Clark, Vice Chair, House Democratic Caucus  
Rep. Jerrold Nadler, Chairman, House Judiciary Committee  
Rep. Zoe Lofgren, Chair, Subcommittee on Immigration & Citizenship, House  
Judiciary Committee  
Rep. Judy Chu, Chair, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus