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1141736

THE WHITE HOUSE
DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT AND
TRACKING WORKSHEET



DATE RECEIVED: June 12, 2014

P6/b(6)

CASE ID: 1141736

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. TYLER CICERO

HU010

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] EXPRESSES COMMENTS REGARDING THE LEGALIZATION OF GAY MARRIAGE ON THE FEDERAL LEVEL

ROUTE TO: AGENCY/OFFICE	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		CODE	DATE	TYPE RESPONSE	CODE
STAFF SECRETARY	JOANI WALSH	ORG	06/12/2014		C 06/24/2014

ACTION COMMENTS:

CORRESPONDENCE	FIONA REEVES	A	06/24/2014	BOCA A	07/14/2014
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MEDIA TYPE: E-MAIL

USER CODE:

ACTION CODES	DISPOSITION		
	TYPE RESPONSE	DISPOSITION CODES	COMPLETED DATE
A = APPROPRIATE ACTION B = RESEARCH AND REPORT BACK D = DRAFT RESPONSE I = INFO COPY/NO ACT NECESSARY R = DIRECT REPLY W/ COPY ORG = ORIGINATING OFFICE	INITIALS OF SIGNER (W.H. STAFF) NRN = NO RESPONSE NEEDED OTBE = OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS	A = ANSWERED OR ACKNOWLEDGED C = CLOSED X = INTERIM REPLY	DATE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OR CLOSEOUT DATE (MM/DD/YY)

KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES
REFER QUESTIONS TO DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT (202)-456-2590
SEND ROUTING UPDATES AND COMPLETED RECORDS TO OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT - DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT ROOM 562, EEOB.

July 14, 2014

Mr. Tyler Cicero

[Redacted]

Dear Tyler:

Thank you for the email you sent in June, and congratulations on your graduation! I appreciate your sharing your story with me.

P6/b(6)

You're right that more work remains to be done for our LGBT community, and I want you to know that I will keep fighting to open doors of opportunity for all Americans, regardless of whom they love—because if we truly are created equal, then surely the love we commit to one another must be equal as well.

Again, thank you for writing. Our Nation's progress is thanks in no small part to brave Americans like you who [Redacted] challenge prejudice in their own communities. As you continue on to college, please know I expect great things from you.

Sincerely,

POTUS AP
BO/FR/GM/MC/KD
10LAD P-BHO

OK to AP
Om

JUL 22 2014

✓ Proc: LGBTQ

BARACK OBAMA (A)



Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month, 2014

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

As progress spreads from State to State, as justice is delivered in the courtroom, and as more of our fellow Americans are treated with dignity and respect—our Nation becomes not only more accepting, but more equal as well. During Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, we celebrate victories that have affirmed freedom and fairness, and we recommit ourselves to completing the work that remains.

Last year, supporters of equality celebrated the Supreme Court's decision to strike down a key provision of the Defense of Marriage Act, a ruling which, at long last, gave loving, committed families the respect and legal protections they deserve. In keeping with this decision, my Administration is extending family and spousal benefits—from immigration benefits to military family benefits—to legally married same-sex couples.

My Administration proudly stands alongside all those who fight for LGBT rights. Here at home, we have strengthened laws against violence toward LGBT Americans, taken action to prevent bullying and harassment, and prohibited discrimination in housing and hospitals. Despite this progress, LGBT workers in too many States can be fired just because of their sexual orientation or gender identity; I continue to call on the Congress to correct this injustice by passing the Employment Non-Discrimination Act. And in the years ahead, we will remain dedicated to addressing health disparities within the LGBT community by implementing the Affordable Care Act and the National HIV/AIDS Strategy—which focuses on improving care while decreasing HIV transmission rates among communities most at risk.

Our commitment to advancing equality for the LGBT community extends far beyond our borders. In many places around the globe, LGBT people face persecution, arrest, or even state-sponsored execution. This is unacceptable. The United States calls on every nation to join us in defending the universal human rights of our LGBT brothers and sisters.

This month, as we mark 45 years since the patrons of the Stonewall Inn defied an unjust policy and awakened a nascent movement, let us honor every brave leader who stood up, sat in, and came out, as well as the allies who supported them along the way. Following their example, let each of us speak for tolerance, justice, and dignity—because if hearts and minds continue to change over time, laws will too.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim June 2014 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month. I call upon the people of the United States to eliminate prejudice everywhere it exists, and to celebrate the great diversity of the American people.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand fourteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-eighth.

6/12/14
8:4

From: Tyler Cicero

Submitted: 6/10/2014 1:17 AM EDT

Back from the OVAL
6/13/14

Email:

Phone:

Address:

[Redacted]

Message:

My name is Tyler and [Redacted]

[Redacted] Opponents to gay marriage claim that being gay is a choice, they claim that we have some sort of "agenda," and that it is our intention to wreak havoc on America. The

P6/b(6)

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Surely, this hatred significantly damages the confidence of closeted gay youths across America who may otherwise have had so much potential, and I believe it is a much larger problem than can be solved with letting the issue get resolved slowly, state-by-state. What must simply be done is a federal legalization of gay marriage to demonstrate that the United States is a country where every single person does in fact deserve equal rights. While I understand that there may be backlash, it has been repeatedly proven within recent years in various states (and now Wisconsin!) that a ban on gay marriage is in fact unconstitutional, but the real point I am trying to make is that legalizing gay marriage is just the right thing to do. The fact that there is currently nothing being done federally just gives more apparent leverage to those whose opinions against gay marriage are just simply wrong. With time, the backlash will fade; [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Please act justly, please restore confidence to oppressed gay youths [Redacted] and please move for a federal law that allows for gay marriage EVERYWHERE. Who knows how long it would otherwise take for the legalization to reach some states where there are so many lonely kids struggling so profoundly and pondering suicide because of something they cannot control? Thank you very much, and I can only wish that this letter ends up in your hands, Mr. President. My deepest gratitude.

July 14, 2014

Mr. Tyler Cicero

[Redacted]

Dear Tyler:

Thank you for the email you sent in June, and congratulations on your graduation! I appreciate your sharing your story with me.

You're right that more work remains to be done for our LGBT community, and I want you to know that I will keep fighting to open doors of opportunity for all Americans, regardless of whom they love—because if we truly are created equal, then surely the love we commit to one another must be equal as well.

Again, thank you for writing. Our Nation's progress is thanks in no small part to brave Americans like you who [Redacted] challenge prejudice in their own communities. As you continue on to college, please know I expect great things from you.

Sincerely,

POTUS AP
BO/FR/GM/MC/KD
10LAD P-BHO

P6/b(6)

Commented [DK(1): TY LGBT Story letter: "Messages like yours encourage me to keep fighting to open doors of opportunity for all Americans, regardless of who they love."

Commented [DK(2): POTUS Remarks at Reception for LGBT Pride Month (06/13/2013):

And it's something that can be traced back to our Declaration of Independence -- the fundamental principle that all of us are created equal. And as I said in my Inaugural Address, if we truly are created equal, then surely the love we commit to one another must be equal as well. (Applause.)

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/06/13/remarks-president-reception-lgbt-pride-month>

Commented [DK(3): TY LGBT Story: "The progress of the past few decades is thanks in no small part to brave Americans who came out, spoke out, and challenged prejudice in their own communities."

July 14, 2014

Mr. Tyler Cicero

[Redacted]

Dear Tyler:

P6/b(6)

Thank you for the email you sent in June, and congratulations on your graduation. I appreciate your sharing your story with me.

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Commented [DK(1): TY LGBT Story letter: "Messages like yours encourage me to keep fighting to open doors of opportunity for all Americans, regardless of who they love."

I wish you all the best. The progress of the past few decades is thanks in no small part to brave Americans like you who [Redacted] and challenge prejudice when and where they see it. As you continue on to college, please know I expect great things from you.

Commented [DK(2): POTUS Remarks at Reception for LGBT Pride Month (06/13/2013):

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Sincerely,

POTUS AP
BO/FR/GM/MC/KD
10LAD P-BHO

July 3, 2014

Mr. Tyler Cicero

[Redacted]

Dear Tyler:

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You're right that more work remains to be done for our LGBT community, and I want you to know that I will keep fighting to open doors of opportunity for all Americans, regardless of whom they love—because if we truly are created equal, then surely the love we commit to one another must be equal as well.

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Sincerely,

**POTUS AP
BO/FR/GM/MC/KD
10LAD P-BHO**



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