Health Care Leaders: LGBTQ Discrimination has no place in Vermont

As leaders in Vermont's health care system, we are committed to providing care and services without discrimination, regardless of who you are and who you love. Vermont's hospitals, providers, health care professionals, and insurers will not change our practices based on new federal guidance that attempts to strip protections from lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) people.

Every LGBTQ Vermonter must be able to access health care without fear of discrimination. Vermont law protects LGBTQ people from discrimination in health care today, and Vermont's health care community stands united against this discrimination.

Along with our continued commitment to provide care and services without discrimination, we recommit to improving the ways we serve the LGBTQ community.

If you do experience health care discrimination or other issues accessing care, you have resources:

- You can contact the Pride Center of Vermont's SafeSpace Anti-Violence Program during office hours at 802-863-0003 or by emailing safespace@pridecentervt.org. The SafeSpace Anti-Violence Program's mission is to end violence and discrimination in the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and HIV-affected (LGBTQ+) people in Vermont.

- You can contact the Department of Financial Regulation by phone at 833-DFR-HOTLINE or by email at dfr.insuranceinfo@vermont.gov. DFR is committed to ensuring Vermonters, especially those in marginalized and vulnerable communities, have access to medically necessary care.

- You can contact the Health Care Advocate HelpLine by phone at 800-917-778 or by email at HCA@vtlegalaid.org. The Office of the Health Care Advocate is a free resource available to help everyone in Vermont solve problems related to health care, including health insurance and health care access.

Signed,

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