



For Release:

APsaA Commends Passage of Equality Act; Calls on U.S. Senate to Support It

New York, NY – May 21, 2019 - The American Psychoanalytic Association (APsaA) commends the U.S. House of Representatives for passing the Equality Act. The bill, first introduced in 2015, would provide explicit non-discrimination protections for LGBTQ people in employment, housing, credit, education, public spaces and services, federally funded programs, and jury service. Currently most U.S. states do not prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

“As leading mental health providers, we aim to relieve human suffering, promote understanding, and improve our patients’ quality of life,” said Lee Jaffe, president of APsaA. “Discrimination is entirely incompatible with these goals. In fact we know from research and clinical experience that discrimination and bias can contribute to mental health issues such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, substance abuse, and suicidal behavior.”

APsaA has a commitment to promoting and improving the health and well-being of gender non-conforming and LGBTQ people as well as eliminating violence, working to ensure equality in employment, housing, public accommodation, military service, veterans benefits, licensing, parenting, adoptions and access to legal benefits, and confronting stereotypes and educating the public about the reality of the lives of LGBTQ people.

“We now call on the U.S. Senate and President Trump to support and pass the Equality Act. It is time to guarantee civil rights protections for all Americans,” concluded Jaffe.

About APsaA

The American Psychoanalytic Association is a professional organization of psychoanalysts with approximately 3,300 members. The Association is comprised of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, educators, researchers and students who have an interest in psychoanalysis and psychoanalytic therapy. Visit www.apsa.org for more information.

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