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## Action Alert: License to Discriminate

By Elena Berger

From Center for American Progress

Subject Line: URGENT: Say NO to the Dept. of Labor's License to Discriminate

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### Say NO to the Dept. of Labor's License to Discriminate

Once again, the Trump administration is attacking Americans' rights under the flimsy guise of religious freedom—[and we only have one week to act.](#)

One of former President Barack Obama's signature achievements was extending employment protections for federal contractors so that LGBTQ people could go to work with less fear of discrimination. Along with existing protections on the basis of things like race, sex, and religion, these policies reach across a huge segment of the U.S. economy: **22 percent of Americans work for a federal contractor**, so **millions of people** are protected from discrimination on the job.

The latest proposed rule from the Department of Labor would **gut these protections**, allowing federal contractors to discriminate against their employees as long as they assert a religious reason for doing so.

[That is just plain wrong. We have to stop them.](#)



The proposed rule would allow pretty much any federal contractor to define itself as religious and use exemptions to discriminate. Here are just a few examples of what they'd be able to do:

- Fire a woman who is pregnant and unmarried
- Fire an employee who marries someone of the same sex, or deny health benefits to the partner
- Refuse to allow transgender employees to dress and utilize facilities consistent with their gender identity
- Refuse to interview someone who isn't a member of the employer's religion

**[If you think this is appalling, click this link and use our simple form to send a public comment to the Labor Department.](#)**

The Trump administration might think they can get away with this—**and use taxpayer dollars to do it**—but they haven't heard the end of this.

They've only given us till September 16 to submit public comments. **[Don't put it off—make your voice heard right now!](#)**

Thank you,

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