TRANSADVOCATE

If you Want to Lobby for the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, Stay Home

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Abstract

I recently received an email from Mara Keisling asking me to join the: "National Center for Transgender Equality and the Transgender People of Color Coalition in Washington, DC on June 17, 2013 to lobby for basic job protections and fair treatment in the U.S. immigration system." In years past, the lobby days put on by [...]

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Figure 1. apartment

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> *"National Center for Transgender Equality and the Transgender People of Color Coalition in Washington, DC on June 17, 2013 to lobby for basic job protections and fair treatment in the U.S. immigration system."*

In years past, the lobby days put on by the National Transgender Advocacy Coalition, GenderPAC, and the National Center for Transgender Equality, were invaluable in educating both citizen lobbyists and the US Congress about the issues transgender people face. I've lobbied Congress and the tools I learned there were invaluable.

But, that being said, I didn't need to go to Washington DC to do it and neither do you. Lobbying Congress shouldn't be just a day of the year, it should be done year round. If you want to lobby Congress, your Senators and Representatives have offices in your state. Instead of spending

hundreds of dollars on hotels, airfare, and fancy galas, you simply need to pay for fuel to get you your representative’s offices. Take a friend next week, take a family member next month. Make sure people in their home offices see the faces of people who will be effected by this legislation. Congress doesn’t need educated. They need to hear from you, loud and often.

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