



Since 2016, transgender people have proven their ability to serve openly in our military. We are a stronger, more capable force with everyone included. Consider the examples of transgender leaders like Army Infantry Major Kara Corcoran who just completed a successful tour in Korea serving as the Executive Officer of an Armor Battalion, Air Force Staff Sergeant Evelyn Lee who is excelling in our nation's most grueling cyber operator course, or Marine Corps Sergeant Samson Gibbs who is forward deployed ensuring we retain our most qualified and innovative Marines. Their examples, and many others, make it clear that the opportunity for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex people, or anyone else that can meet military standards, to serve should be enshrined in law.

Transgender troops have deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan, and many other combat zones. They've been promoted, served in command, awarded medals, and received countless performance awards. Not only have they survived through multiple policy changes, they've thrived. Transgender troops are invaluable to their teams and to mission success everywhere. Their future ability to serve should not be in jeopardy.

The Truman Amendment establishes a nondiscrimination policy so that eligibility for service in the Armed Forces does not include criteria relating to the race, color, national origin, religion, or sex (including gender identity, sex characteristics, or sexual orientation) of an individual. Building on President Truman's historic 1948 executive orders and the proven success of all military minority groups, it guarantees military policies will not needlessly exclude those who are able and willing to serve. Passing this legislation ensures the United States can attract and retain the best and the brightest our nation has to offer.

Supporting the Truman Amendment to the NDAA ensures the opportunity to serve is there for all Americans who can meet the standards of the armed forces. Your support is vital.


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Questions: inquiries@spartapride.org or info@modernmilitary.org

Additional Resources

Vignettes of transgender troops: spartapride.org/commitment-to-serve/

With Honor and Integrity: Transgender Troops in Their Own Words withhonorbook.com

Truman Amendment Legislative Text

Chapter 37 U.S.C. is amended to insert after section 651 the following new section:

651a. Members: nondiscrimination

(a) Standards for Eligibility For Service.—Any qualifications established or applied for eligibility for service in an armed force shall take into account only the ability of an individual to meet gender-neutral occupational standards for military service generally and the military occupational specialty concerned in particular, and may not include any criteria relating to race, color, national origin, religion, or sex (including gender identity, sexual orientation, or sex characteristics) of an individual.

(b) Equality of Treatment in Service.—Any personnel policy developed or implemented by the Department of Defense with respect to members of the armed forces shall ensure equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed forces, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, and sex (including gender identity, sexual orientation, or sex characteristics).

(c) Gender Identity Defined.—In this section, the term gender identity, appearance, mannerisms, or other gender-related characteristics of the individual's designated sex at birth. *It is unlawful to discriminate against an individual who is transitioning, has transitioned, or is perceived to be transitioning to live in accordance with their gender identity.*

(d) Transitioning Defined.—A process some transgender people go through to begin living in accordance with their gender identity. *This process may include, but is not limited to, changes in name and pronoun usage, facility usage, undergoing hormone therapy, surgeries, or other medical procedures.*