



April 1, 2016

VIA US MAIL

Office of the Governor
116 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Governor McCrory:

We write to express our utter disappointment with House Bill 2 - the discriminatory legislation you signed last week that overturns protections for LGBT people and fosters discrimination across the state. This venomous legislation is an affront to the values of Waterkeeper Alliance and our country.

Waterkeeper Alliance is an international movement uniting more than 280 locally based clean water organizations and focusing citizen action on issues that affect our waterways, from pollution to climate change. Waterkeepers Carolina works to further the voices of the North Carolina Waterkeeper organizations at the state level and advocate on their behalf. Currently, the Waterkeeper movement employs more than 900 people. This includes 4 full-time and 1 part-time Waterkeeper Alliance employees in the state of North Carolina, along with 13 Waterkeeper organizations and affiliates in the state, who employ 34 North Carolinians. Combined these organizations directly spend approximately \$4 million per year in North Carolina.

Going back more than 20 years, Waterkeeper Alliance and our Waterkeeper organizations across the state have invested significant resources in North Carolina to hold polluters accountable and ensure that every North Carolinian has the right to clean water. We currently are scheduled to host a week-long global conference with an estimated 300 attendees in Wilmington, NC in the summer of 2016. However, the state's recent backsliding into a repugnant atmosphere of exclusion and hate is prompting us to consider significant changes to this event - up to and including moving the event out of North Carolina - which accounts for a significant direct and indirect economic impact to the state. Like us, businesses and governments across the country are reconsidering the extent of their economic activity in the state.

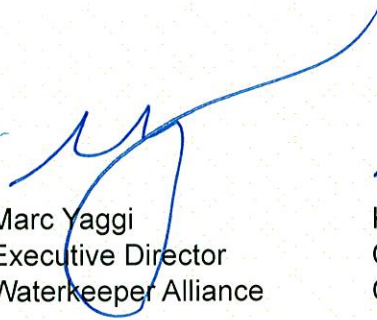
Waterkeeper Alliance believes that discrimination has no place anywhere in the United States. At Waterkeeper Alliance, we embrace inclusiveness and are proud of our robust non-discrimination policy. We urge you to repeal this law and set North Carolina on a course

that values diversity, inclusiveness, and equity - values reflected by a majority of North Carolinians.

Sincerely,



Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
President
Waterkeeper Alliance



Marc Yaggi
Executive Director
Waterkeeper Alliance



Kemp Burdette
Cape Fear Riverkeeper
Co-Chair, Waterkeepers Carolina