



The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary

March 23, 2021

I am writing to support the nomination of Ms. Vanita Gupta as Associate Attorney General.

Today, there are currently 250,000 active duty LGBTQ servicemembers and over 1.5 million LGBTQ veterans and as you are likely aware, Ms. Gupta has an impressive track record as an experience leader and civil rights litigator and has prioritized protecting servicemembers from discrimination and predatory practices while serving at home and abroad.

Her professional credibility speaks volumes as she has been the Head of the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, Deputy Legal Director and the Director of the Center for Justice at the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), and NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund.

Ms. Gupta has dedicated her life to justice and fairness in areas including: Advancing constitutional policing and criminal justice reform; prosecuting hate crimes and human trafficking; promoting disability rights; protecting the rights of LGBTQ individuals; ensuring voting rights for all; and combating discrimination in education, housing, employment, fair lending (especially for military families), military voting (The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act [UOCAVA], and religious exercise. Even during the pandemic, Ms. Gupta has committed to having the backs of military servicemembers and their families from COVID scammers.

At the Modern Military Association of America – the nation's largest LGBTQ military and veteran non-profit - we are keenly aware that LGBTQ servicemembers, veterans, and their families continue to perpetually face stigma and discrimination inside and outside the ranks. From World II until the Repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell in 2010, we are aware that over 114,000 servicemembers were discharged under dishonorable or other-than-honorable circumstances and put full faith in the justice system within the military and outside the military to rectify this injustice.

That is why we put full support behind Ms. Vanita Gupta. Not only has she had a history of championing issues for the LGBTQ community that spans more than a decade, but she has also championed civil rights issues for military members, veterans, and their families.

I strongly support the nomination of Ms. Vanita Gupta as Associate Attorney General.

Sincerely,

**Jennifer L. Dane**  
*Executive Director*  
Modern Military Association of America