

February 8, 2011

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Office of the Prime Minister  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

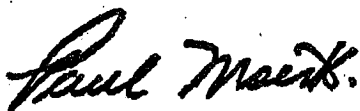
The Canadian Union of Public Employees represents over 600,000 members from a broad cross-section of citizens working in the public and private sectors in Canada. CUPE urges you and Conservative members to support Bill C-389 in the House of Commons this coming week. The Bill will be voted in the House on February 9.

Bill C-389 is an Act to amend the *Canadian Human Rights Act* and the *Criminal Code* (gender identity and gender expression) and is an important initiative as it addresses the exclusion of gender identity and gender expression from the *Human Rights Act (CHRA)* and the *Criminal Code*. The bill amends the *Canadian Human Rights Act* to include gender identity and expression as prohibited grounds for discrimination. It adds crimes motivated by transphobia to the list of crimes treated under the *Criminal Code* as potential hate crimes.

Explicit reference under the *CHRA* would afford transgender, transsexual, cross-dresser, intersex, gender-queer, gender non-conforming, and gender-open individuals clearer protection against discrimination to create a safer Canada for us all.

I urge you and your colleagues to support Bill C-389.

Yours truly,



PAUL MOIST  
National President

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c.c. M. Ignatieff; J. Layton; G. Duceppe

