

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## COCA-COLA, PEPSICO, UPS, BEST BUY AND OTHER MAJOR BRANDS SHELL OUT CASH TO ANTI-LGBT POLITICIANS

## ZERO FOR ZEROS CAMPAIGN RELEASES FINAL LIST OF COMPANIES WHO CONTINUE TO FUND THE WORST OF THE WORST

(Washington, DC) The Zero for Zeros campaign released today, a new round of companies who receive a perfect 100 rating from the Human Rights Campaign's Corporate Equality Index (CEI), but use their corporate PACs to fund elected officials in Congress who lead opposition to LGBT equality. The list of anti-LGBT elected officials includes Reps. Steve King and Louie Gohmert as well as Senators Mike Enzi and Ted Cruz, among others. The campaign aims to pressure companies to review and end their financial support of these extreme anti-LGBT politicians.

Today's companies are some of the biggest consumer names in the world and include:

- United Parcel Services
- Chevron Corp
- Northrop Grumman
- Pfizer
- General Motors
- Ecolab Inc
- Dow Chemical Co
- Exelon Corp
- Coca-Cola
- Johnson & Johnson
- Bayer AG

- Boston Scientific Corp
- General Mills
- Procter & Gamble
- Cargill
- Nationwide Mutual Insurance
- Cardinal Health
- Pepsico
- Diageo
- Best Buy
- Whirlpool Corporation
- Merck

"Many of America's biggest brands say they are proud supporters of their LGBT employees and customers, but at the same time, their corporate PACs are contributing to some of the most strident opponents of LGBT equality in Congress," said Lane Hudson, Zero for Zeros' campaign manager. "Those contributions enable the worst of the worst in Congress who work everyday to roll back the



progress we've fought hard to win, and who block critical protections for LGBT people like the Equality Act. Our ask is simple, these companies should end their corporate PAC contributions to the politicians who work everyday against equality. It is the right thing for their employees, their customers, and their brand.

Zero for Zeros found that 49 companies that received a 100% rating on the Human Rights Campaign's CEI have donated to members of Congress that are the most outspoken against LGBT equality, earning a ZERO rating on the Human Rights Campaign's Congressional Scorecard. These companies have contributed a total of \$5,837,331 from their corporate PACs to the worst of the worst Members of Congress. Zero for Zeros is asking that the companies' corporate PACs cease giving to these members of Congress. A summary of the contributions can be viewed on the Zero for Zero's website.

"As a veteran of the financial industry and politics, I've worked to advance equality in corporate America and government. There is no logical rationale for a company that supports the LGBT community to support politicians that work against it," said Charles Meyers, Chairman of Signum Global Advisors.

"As a corporate leader, my money goes to candidates that align with my values and the values of the company I lead. I would never contribute to candidates that not only don't hold those values of equality and fairness, but who in fact work against them," said Mitchell Gold, Co-Founder and Chairman of Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams.

The campaign has contacted the CEOs of each of these companies as part of the campaign. A diverse group of <u>leading activists</u> signed on in support of the campaign and is running <u>digital ads</u> and <u>digital video</u> engaging employees and allies to join the campaign.

The full list of Zero for Zeros companies:

- Microsoft
- Facebook
- AT&T
- T-Mobile
- Google
- Intel
- Amazon
- Visa
- Mastercard
- Cisco Systems

- Dell Inc
- Oracle
- Sap America
- American Airlines
  - Wells Fargo
- Morgan Stanley
- JPMorgan Chase
- Capital One Financial Corp
- Citigroup

- Cigna Corp
- PNC Financial Services
- KPMG
- Ernst & Young
- Deloitte
- PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Massachusetts Mutual
   Life Insurance
- BBVA Compass Bank
- United Parcel Services



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- Whirlpool Corporation
- Merck