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## Attorney General Brown Opposes Trump Ban on Transgender Military Service

**BALTIMORE, MD (June 2, 2025)** – Attorney General Anthony G. Brown joined attorneys general in 20 states arguing, in a [brief](#) filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit on Friday, that President Trump’s discriminatory ban on transgender military service members undermines state and national security. The brief was filed in support of a lawsuit by personnel seeking to overturn the order.

“Excluding transgender Americans from military service is not only discriminatory – it’s a direct threat to our national security,” **said Attorney General Brown.** “These are courageous, skilled individuals who are willing to risk everything for their country. President Trump’s unlawful ban sacrifices military readiness and basic human dignity for political gain. We must stand with all those who are ready to serve, not push them aside because of who they are.”

The brief was filed in *Shilling v. Trump*, which was brought by lead plaintiff and decorated U.S. Navy Commander Emily Shilling. Shilling, who has served for over 20 years and flown over 60 combat and high-risk missions, is transgender and wants to continue working for the American public. In February, Attorney General Brown – joined by 20 other states – filed an [amicus brief](#) in the district court in support of the plaintiffs. The district court relied on that brief in issuing a preliminary injunction halting implementation of the president’s executive order nationwide.

The brief states that the president’s order “not only violates the Constitution...but it will also weaken our nation’s military, including the National Guards operated by all Amici States.”

Friday’s brief reaffirms that the injunction is necessary to protect important state interests. The attorneys general describe how the president’s action deprives states’ National Guard units of experienced and qualified soldiers at a time when recruitment is especially challenging. Trump’s blatantly discriminatory policy is also fundamentally at odds with state laws protecting transgender individuals.

In filing the brief, Attorney General Brown was joined by the attorneys general of California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota,

Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin.

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