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Dear Annual Conference Attendee:

We are looking forward to welcoming you to APIC's 43rd Annual Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, June 11-13.

As you are probably aware, North Carolina is in the middle of a controversy surrounding discrimination law and practices that limit the access of transgender people to restrooms in public schools and state buildings. We want to make very clear to you that APIC stands firmly against discrimination of any kind. Our organization embraces diversity and inclusion in its workforce and its membership.

The City of Charlotte has assured us that Charlotte is a welcoming and respectful city that values diversity, inclusion, and equality. It was the City of Charlotte that voted favorably to expand protections for the LGBT community including transgender persons. The Charlotte Visitors Bureau has made assurances to APIC that all conference attendees will feel welcome throughout their stay and will have access to the bathroom of their choice.

APIC selected Charlotte, NC as the site for its 2016 conference over four years ago when it was impossible to foresee that North Carolina would be at the center of such a controversy. The size of APIC's conference with more than 4,000 attendees prohibits relocation within a few months of the conference dates.

APIC's mission is to create a safer world through the prevention of infection. APIC members are healthcare professionals who serve the public and patients with competence, kindness, compassion, and without discrimination.

Members and other healthcare professionals rely on APIC to provide education and scientific advances in infection prevention and control during this annual conference. A testament to this is the high number of registered attendees and exhibitors consistent with prior APIC conferences. We look forward to seeing you at the conference, and we are confident that APIC 2016 will provide the same wonderful, high value experience this year as in past years. Our focus will be on infection prevention and control and furthering our patient safety mission.

With warm regards,

Susan Dolan, RN, MS, CIC
APIC President

Katrina Crist, MBA, CAE
APIC Chief Executive Officer