

Karen Pearl
President & CEO



August 18, 2010

Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
c/o Stamp Development
U.S. Postal Service
1735 North Lynn Street, Suite 5013
Arlington, VA 22209-6432

To Members of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge creation of a Commemorative U.S. Postage Stamp to honor Harvey Milk, a hero to millions of Americans, whom we remember for his efforts to insure civil rights for lesbian, gay, and indeed, all Americans.

So many of us have greatly benefited from his courage to stand up for American values—values we treasure not only for what they are, because they have been won at a very high price. As a member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and as the first openly gay man elected to political office in our nation's history, Harvey championed true participatory democracy at the cost of his own life.

Harvey was a pioneer and a passionate advocate of civil rights, equal opportunity and equality before the law. As a community and civic leader, Harvey empowered neighborhood and community activists, gay men and lesbians—people who were effectively disenfranchised in his time—to finally win, for the first time, appointment to positions of power and authority in their own communities—San Francisco, New York City, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C —and in towns and cities in every state of the country.

You have, as our representatives, a great opportunity to honor the achievements of this outstanding American leader. He changed history for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender, senior citizens, members of minority groups—positive change that affected their partners and their children, their parents and relatives—thousands and thousands of people across the nation who care about social justice for all. Harvey Milk had great courage and, as a nation, we are proud of him.

Please, do consider the hope of many of us for a stamp to honor Harvey Milk. Your action in favor of this stamp matters a great deal to people who would celebrate having one of their own recognized as a credit to this country.

Sincerely,


Karen Pearl