

Congressman Sylvester Turner - [Press Conference](#)

January 31, 2025

Tammi Wallace – Remarks

Thank you, Congressman Turner, for the opportunity to be with you and for speaking out against the egregious impacts of these executive orders. My name is **Tammi Wallace**, and I am a *Co-Founder, President & CEO* of the Greater Houston LGBTQ+ Chamber of Commerce.

At the **Greater Houston LGBTQ+ Chamber of Commerce**, we are focused on helping small businesses grow and thrive. That's exactly what we intended on doing with our day-long small business Summit that was hosted yesterday.

Just this week, with less than 48 hours' notice, we were notified that we could not host our event at the Federal Reserve Bank due to President Trump's Executive Order.

We had to 120+ people registered for the event. Our team had to scramble and use valuable time and resources to move the event, which was not easy considering the scope of the event and all the logistics.

This is the impact of President Trump's Executive Order, undermining an event focused on small businesses and impacting those entrepreneurs who are working hard every day and help grow our economy.

From small to large businesses, DEI drives business success from profitability to innovation and creativity to talent attraction and retention.

What we know is when diverse businesses succeed in our country, we all succeed. An inclusive economy means an economy that works for **all** Americans and all businesses.

Make no mistake...these executive orders undermine businesses **and** our economy.

These executive orders target and attempt to erase the LGBTQ+ community and other marginalized communities. **We will not be erased.**

Diverse communities are a vital part of the economic fabric of country. Our economy needs diverse businesses and a diverse pool of talent to thrive...and **not** division.

Thank you.