

From: Coriell, Scott [Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2016 1:09 PM
To: Coriell, Scott
Subject: CORRECTED Gov. Shumlin Invites PayPal to Locate in Vermont After Company Cancels North Carolina Expansion

Please note the corrected press release below. I inadvertently sent an unedited version of the letter. The version below is corrected. Thanks.

From: Coriell, Scott
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2016 12:42 PM
To: Coriell, Scott <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>
Subject: Gov. Shumlin Invites PayPal to Locate in Vermont After Company Cancel North Carolina Expansion

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 5, 2016

Gov. Shumlin Invites PayPal to Locate in Vermont After Company Cancels North Carolina Expansion

MONTPELIER – Gov. Peter Shumlin today invited PayPal to locate a planned expansion that would create 400 jobs in Vermont after the company [announced it would cancel prior expansion plans](#) in North Carolina over disagreements with that state’s anti-LGBT law.

In a letter to PayPal CEO Dan Schulman, the Governor invited the company to locate in Vermont given the state’s proud history of non-discrimination and protecting the rights of all citizens. The Governor also cited Vermont’s burgeoning tech industry in his pitch.

“I believe Vermont would be a great place for you to locate your facility,” Gov. Shumlin said. “We would welcome you – as we do all our citizens no matter their gender, race, sexual orientation, or gender identity – with open arms.”

The Governor’s full letter to Schulman is copied below.

Dear Mr. Schulman,

I want to commend you for your decision to cancel expansion plans in North Carolina over disagreements with that state’s recent law which opens the door to discrimination against the LGBT community. Your decision is an admirable one that reflects a set of values that we share in Vermont.

Vermont has a long proud history of standing up for our citizens’ rights. In 2000, Vermont was the first state to recognize that the love two people share is more important than their gender

when we enacted civil unions. In 2009, Vermont was the first state to legislatively enact marriage equality simply because it is the right thing to do, not because a judge ordered us to. In 1992, Vermont was one of the first states to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. In 2007, Vermont added gender identity to our non-discrimination law.

In addition to this proud history, Vermont also has a burgeoning tech sector. Companies like Dealer.com, My Web Grocer, and GlobalFoundries call our state home. Burlington, our state's largest city, has been rated one of the ten most innovative tech hubs in America and was recently designated by the White House as a TechHire City.

I don't need to tell you about Vermont's natural beauty since you attended Middlebury College, and therefore we consider you one of our own. And don't get me started on our award winning farm-to-plate, farm-to-fork, and farm-to-can revolution that is producing the world's best beer, cheese, and much more.

Given all of that, I believe Vermont would be a great place for you to locate your facility. We would welcome you – as we do all our citizens no matter their gender, race, sexual orientation, or gender identity – with open arms.

Sincerely,

Peter Shumlin
Governor

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