

## Federal Judge Will Hear HB2 Challenge In August

By Administrator

Thursday, 14 July 2016 15:41 -

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U.S. District Judge Thomas Schroeder will hear arguments on Aug. 1 on whether to block provisions of House Bill 2. The hearing is set for 10 a.m. in Winston-Salem in one of four cases challenging HB2. The law requires transgender people to use restrooms on government property that correspond with the gender on their birth certificates. The law also blocks local governments from passing nondiscrimination protections for LGBT people that are more sweeping than state law.

Three transgender residents of North Carolina, a lesbian law professor at N.C. Central University and a lesbian couple in Charlotte filed a lawsuit quickly after the law was adopted, claiming it violates the federal gender equity law. They have legal representation from the American Civil Liberties Union, ACLU of North Carolina, Lambda Legal and Jenner and Block law firm.

Advocates of HB2 have described the law as one that promotes privacy and security.

The U.S. Justice Department sued North Carolina over the law, describing it as a violation of equal employment and gender equity laws. Earlier this month, attorneys representing the government made a similar request to Schroeder, asking him to block HB2 while the case pends.