



**COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION**  
**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

**Recommendation Number: 20160425-6c: Ban Official Travel and Business With Mississippi and North Carolina**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Austin welcomes people from all walks of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the States of Mississippi and North Carolina have recently passed repressive, anti-LGBT legislation; and

**WHEREAS**, these state-sanctioned LGBT discriminatory laws are inconsistent with City of Austin policy; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Austin enacted a gender-neutral bathroom ordinance which went into effect in January 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Austin has a history of boycotting governmental entities which pass discriminatory laws, such as in 2010 when all travel and business was banned with the State of Arizona after that state passed an anti-immigration law, Arizona Senate Bill 1070; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Austin has an affirmative interest in making sure its employees are not subjected to unfounded harassment and potential detentions while on official city business; and

**WHEREAS**, as of April 18, 2016:

- the States of Connecticut, Minnesota, New York, Vermont, and Washington
- the Cities of Cincinnati and Dayton, OH; Honolulu HI; New York City; Oakland, CA; Portland, OR; Providence, RI; Salt Lake City UT; San Francisco; Santa Fe, NM; Seattle; Tampa; Washington DC, West Palm Beach, FL; and Wilton Manors, FL
- Multnomah County, OR (Portland) and Dane County, WI (Madison)

are boycotting both Mississippi and North Carolina and additionally, the following are prohibiting official travel to North Carolina only:

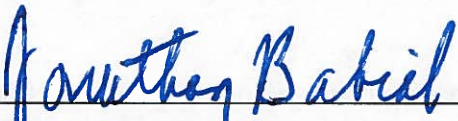
- the Cities of Atlanta; Boston; Chicago; Madison WI; Royal Oak, Mich.
- the counties of Cuyahoga County, OH (Cleveland) and Summit County, OH (Akron)

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Austin Human Rights Commission asks the Austin City Council to boycott both Mississippi and North Carolina by banning official travel to and business with these states, except in cases where the public health and safety are concerned, until such time these laws are overturned or changed and no longer potentially threatens City employees' welfare; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that when the Austin City Council passes this boycott, the Austin Human Rights Commission asks Mayor Adler to send a letter to the National Basketball Association (NBA) outlining the City's action and encourage the NBA to move their 2017 All-Star Game away from Charlotte, NC.

Date of Approval: April 25, 2016

Record of the vote: Motion by Commissioner Brown, second by Commissioner Miguez, adopted 7-0-1; Commissioner Royall abstain, Vice Chair Caballero and Commissioner Leite da Silva absent.

Attest:  \_\_\_\_\_

Jonathan Babiak, Human Rights Commission Liaison  
City of Austin Human Resources Department