

COMMISSION RESOLUTION

LGBTQ Quality of Life Advisory Commission

Resolution Number: 20181015-3e Resolution in Support of City's Non-Discrimination Ordinances

WHEREAS, the City of Austin amended its fair housing ordinance in 1982 to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and subsequently prohibited discrimination in employment and public accommodations based on sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin further amended its fair housing ordinance in 2004 to prohibit discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations based on gender identity; and

WHEREAS, a 2008 national survey of lesbian, gay and bisexual individuals conducted by the Williams Institute found that 27 percent of the respondents had experienced at least one form of sexual orientation-based discrimination during the five years prior to the survey, 27 percent had experienced workplace harassment and 7 percent had lost a job; and

WHEREAS, a 2013 survey of LGBT adults released by the Pew Research Center found that 21 percent of the respondents said they had been treated unfairly by an employer; and

WHEREAS, a 2017 pilot study on housing discrimination conducted by the Urban Institute found that housing providers discriminate against gay men and transgender individuals on some treatment measures at the early stage of the rental search process; and

WHEREAS, a 2015 survey of transgender individuals conducted by the National Center for Transgender Equality found that 22 percent of respondents experienced some form of housing discrimination in the past year and 30 percent have experienced homelessness at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS, the same survey found that out of the respondents who visited a place of public accommodation where staff or employees thought or knew they were transgender, 24 percent experienced at least one type of mistreatment in the past year, including 12 percent who were denied equal treatment or service; and

WHEREAS, evidence shows that LGBTQ individuals face significant instances of discrimination when accessing housing, employment and public accommodations, and that non-discrimination ordinances and policies can be effective in protecting such individuals; and

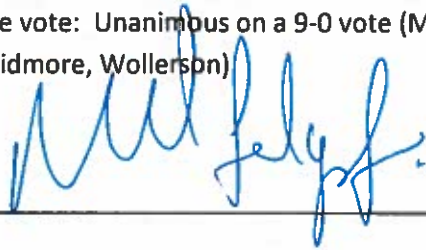
WHEREAS, the City of Austin's non-discrimination ordinances based on sexual orientation and gender identity provide necessary protections and positively impact the quality of life of LGBTQ Austinites;  
NOW THEREFORE;

BE IT RESOLVED that the LGBTQ Quality of Life Advisory Commission supports the City of Austin's non-discrimination protections provided to Austinites based on sexual orientation and gender identity; and emphasizes that these protections are necessary for the quality of life of the city's LGBTQ residents.

Date of Approval: October 15, 2018

Record of the vote: Unanimous on a 9-0 vote (Martinez, Azhar, Baeza, Currette, Curry, Doughty, Gonzales, Skidmore, Wollerson)

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



Neal Falgoust, Staff Liaison