

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, STRONGLY OPPOSING AND CONDEMNING SENATE BILL 2012 AND HOUSE BILL 1475, BOTH OF WHICH SEEK TO PROHIBIT TRANSGENDER YOUTH FROM COMPETING IN STUDENT ATHLETICS; AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO SEND A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE SPEAKER OF THE FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE FLORIDA SENATE.**

**WHEREAS**, almost a dozen transgender girls have played on girls' sports teams in Florida — without controversy — since inclusive policies were passed in 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, now, Senate Bill ("SB") 2012 and House Bill ("HB") 1475 have been filed for consideration during the 2021 Legislative Session, seeking to block transgender girls from playing on school sports teams that align with their gender identity; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 2012 and HB 1475 are similar to legislation passed in Idaho, which was quickly challenged in federal court and is now on hold after a judge ruled the state cannot ban transgender students from sports teams; and

**WHEREAS**, in an attempt to justify these discriminatory bills, the sponsors of SB 2012 and HB 1475 argue that what they've misleadingly named the "Fairness in Women's Sports Act" is needed to "protect" girls who could be denied athletic opportunities if they had to compete against transgender girls who were assigned male at birth; and

**WHEREAS**, however, the sponsors of these bills failed to provide any scientific data justifying banning trans girls from participating in women sports, and even admitted that transgender girls competing on girls' teams has not caused any problems to date, laying bare the reality that these are attacks on trans youth are fueled by discrimination and not supported by fact; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 2012 and HB 1475, as well as dozens of similar bills introduced in over thirty (30) states across the country are predicated on the false premise that trans women are simply men pretending to be women, which is rooted in fundamental misunderstanding of who transgender people are, how and when they transition, and how that impacts their biology; and

**WHEREAS**, collegiate and professional sports organizations have had trans-inclusive policies for years without incident, and there is no reason for a ban on transgender participation in sports; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 12, 2021, the National Collegiate Athletics Association ("NCAA"), which regulates college athletics in the U.S., backed transgender athletes, saying it will not hold championship events in locations that aren't "free of discrimination"; and

**WHEREAS**, the NCAA Board of Governors announced that it "firmly and unequivocally supports the opportunity for transgender student-athletes to compete in college sports."; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly 550 college athletes have stood up to anti-transgender legislation by demanding the NCAA pull championships from states with anti-trans sports legislation; and

**WHEREAS**, according to lawmakers, an NCAA boycott could cost Florida some 50 tournaments and an estimated \$75 million over the next five years; and

**WHEREAS**, earlier in April 2021, more than 55 major U.S. corporations spoke out to oppose anti-transgender legislation being proposed in states across the country, including companies like Facebook, Pfizer, Altria, Peloton, Dell, Amazon, American Airlines, Apple, AT&T, AirBnB, Google, Hilton, IBM, IKEA, Microsoft, Nike, Paypal, Uber, and Verizon; and

**WHEREAS**, these bills do not come from concerns constituents but from anti-LGBTQ organizations like the Heritage Foundation, Alliance Defending Freedom (designated by Southern Poverty Law Center as a hate group), and Eagle Forum among others — the same forces that drove previous anti-equality fights by pushing copycat bills across state houses; and

**WHEREAS**, these broadly unpopular bills are not only damaging to trans youth but are also anti-science and dismiss the medical expertise of a wide range of child welfare advocates; and

**WHEREAS**, the nation's leading child health and welfare groups representing more than 7 million youth-serving professionals and more than 1000 child welfare organizations released an open letter calling for lawmakers in states across the country to oppose dozens of bills such as SB 2012 and HB 1475 that target LGBTQ people, and transgender children in particular; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Miami Beach is committed to staying at the forefront of human rights advocacy and on the right side of history; and

**WHEREAS**, as such, the Mayor and City Commission vehemently oppose and condemn SB 2012 and HB 1475 and any other similar legislation that seeks to block transgender youth from playing on school sports teams that align with their gender identity.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA**, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby strongly oppose and condemn Senate Bill 2012 and House Bill 1475, both of which seek to prohibit transgender youth from competing in student athletics; and direct the City Clerk to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, and the President of the Florida Senate.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Gelber, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Mayor Dan Gelber)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney *FA*

4-20-21  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date