

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, DECLARING THE MONTH OF JUNE
2021 AS LGBTQ PRIDE MONTH IN THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH.**

WHEREAS, LGBTQ Pride Month is celebrated each year during the month of June, in commemoration of the 1969 Stonewall Uprising — an incident sparked by a police raid on the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in New York City's Greenwich Village; and

WHEREAS, the Stonewall Uprising became an important rallying cry for the nascent gay rights movement; and

WHEREAS, the actions of the police sparked six days of heavy protests and violent clashes with law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the courageousness and valor displayed by the members of the LGBTQ community in the Stonewall Uprising served as a catalyst for the Gay Rights Movement around the world; and

WHEREAS, what started as "Gay Pride Day" (formerly celebrated on the last Sunday in June) slowly grew to encompass a month-long series of events, which eventually evolved into Gay Pride Month; and

WHEREAS, Gay Pride Month commemorates the impact that the LGBTQ community has had on local, national, and international history; honors members of the LGBTQ community who have been lost to hate crimes and HIV/AIDS; and features celebrations such as pride parades, picnics, parties, workshops, and concerts; and

WHEREAS, during the last decade, our country have made tremendous strides in the LGBTQ equality movement, including legalizing gay marriage nationwide, electing LGBTQ elected officials on local, state, and federal levels, the repeal of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy; and

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2021, the United States House of Representatives, passed a bill, H.R. 5, entitled the "Equality Act," which would extend federal anti-discrimination protections to LGBTQ Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Equality Act, which is currently facing an uncertain future in the U.S. Senate, would amend the 1964 Civil Rights Act to explicitly prevent discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, thus prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in housing, employment, credit, and federally funded programs, among other areas; and

WHEREAS, this Pride month, we must reflect not only on the progress that has been made in the national and global effort to advance human rights, but also on the

specific challenges that remain for members of LGBTQ communities in the U.S. and around the world; and

WHEREAS, in addition to celebrations of LGBTQ achievements and progress, Gay Pride celebrations stand against a longstanding and continued history of discrimination and violence toward the LGBTQ community; and

WHEREAS, it is important to remember that the revolutionary riots at Stonewall were spearheaded by many LGBTQ people of color, including black and brown transgender women, and that none of the progress made towards the acceptance and equality of LGBTQ individuals over the past 51 years would be possible if not for the action and courage of those protestors; and

WHEREAS, over the last few years, there has been a disturbing proliferation of anti-trans bills, targeting transgender and nonbinary people for discrimination, such as by barring or criminalizing healthcare for transgender youth, barring access to the use of appropriate facilities like restrooms, restricting transgender students' ability to fully participate in school and sports, allowing religiously-motivated discrimination against trans people, or making it more difficult for trans people to get identification documents with their name and gender; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, approximately thirty (30) states have introduced and are considering legislation that would ban transgender students from competing on school sports teams that align with their gender identities; and

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2021, the Florida Legislature passed an anti-transgender sports bill, which, pending the signature from Governor DeSantis, will block transgender girls from playing on school sports teams that align with their gender identity; and

WHEREAS, South Dakota, Mississippi, Arkansas, Alabama West Virginia, and Tennessee also have enacted similar sports bans this year, and Arkansas just recently also passed a law that prohibits doctors from administering gender-affirming treatments to trans patients under 18-years-old; and

WHEREAS, these bills do not come from concerns of 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, Pride Month provides an important opportunity to condemn transphobia, racism, systemic injustice, and police brutality, and to elevate voices and amplify stories of trans people, black people, indigenous people, and other minorities, including those within the LGBTQ community; and

WHEREAS, in the words of late LGBTQ activist Marsha P. Johnson, there can be "no pride for some of us without liberation for all of us"; and

WHEREAS, Miami Beach prides itself on the City's longstanding commitment to honoring the LGBTQ community, and supporting and encouraging a dialogue that promotes equality, dignity, and human rights for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA that the Mayor and the City hereby declare the month of June 2021 as LGBTQ Pride Month in the City of Miami Beach.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2021.

ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Commissioner David Richardson)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

City Attorney *FA*

5-4-21

Date