

MIAMI BEACH

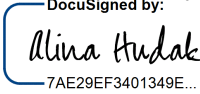
City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, FL 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

LTC #

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Dan Gelber and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Alina Hudak, City Manager 
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Alina Hudak
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DATE: May 5, 2021

SUBJECT: Motion by the Human Rights Committee

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to inform the Mayor and the Commission of a motion made by the Human Rights Committee at their meeting on April 12, 2021.

MOTION: Hair discrimination affects Black Americans and other minorities with textured natural hair that has not been straightened or chemically changed. Hair discrimination is rooted in the idea that straight hair is clean, neat, and professional, while the belief is the opposite for textured or curly hair types. A growing number of state and local legislatures are enacting laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of natural hair style and texture, including those hairstyles necessitated by, or resulting from, the immutable characteristics of a hair texture associated with race, such as braids, locks, afros, curls, and twists.

The City's Human Rights Ordinance (HRO) already prohibits discrimination based on a plethora of characteristics, including weight and height. The Committee recommends that the City amend its HRO to include prohibition of discrimination based on natural hairstyles and textures.

Members in attendance on April 12, 2021:

- Alan B. Fishman, Esq. – Chair
- Clare McCord – Vice Chair
- Dale Stine
- Jonathan Welsh
- Donald Goldberg
- Heidi Tandy, Esq.
- Bradley Ugent
- Alberto Ravelo

The Human Rights Committee unanimously voted in support of this motion.

