

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCY COMMITTEE, MADE AT ITS MARCH 31, 2023 MEETING, AND ALLOCATING A GRANT IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$75,000 TO SAVE FOUNDATION, INC., A NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, FOR DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN FOR LGBTQ YOUTH IMPACTED BY THE “PARENTAL RIGHTS IN EDUCATION” BILL, WIDELY KNOWN AS THE “DON’T SAY GAY” BILL; FURTHER, AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK AND CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE CITY’S STANDARD GRANT AGREEMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE FOREGOING; AND FURTHER, IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS ORGANIZATION AND THE PUBLIC PURPOSES SERVED BY THIS PROGRAMMING, DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO PRIORITIZE AN ALLOCATION OF A \$25,000 GRANT TO SAVE FOUNDATION, INC., AS PART OF THE CITY’S ANNUAL BUDGET PROCESS FOR A SECOND AND THIRD YEAR.

WHEREAS, in 2022, the state of Florida enacted the “Parental Rights in Education” bill, widely known as the “Don’t Say Gay” bill aimed to prohibit school districts from encouraging classroom discussion about sexual orientation or gender identity; and

WHEREAS, specifically, the Bill bans “classroom instruction by school personnel or third parties on sexual orientation or gender identity” in kindergarten through third grade, and to prohibit such teaching “in a manner that is not age appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students,” which could be interpreted to extend to all grade levels; and

WHEREAS, by prohibiting this type of discussion in the classroom, many people believe that the Florida Legislature silenced gay children, their teachers, and education advocates by banning the discussion of sexuality and gender identification topics in Florida schools; and

WHEREAS, many of LGBTQ students suffer teasing, bullying, harassment, violence and internalized oppression that can lead to academic consequences, risky behavior and even suicide; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ youth face unique challenges and recent studies show that during 2021 alone, 42% of LGBTQ youth seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year; and

WHEREAS, the Trevor Project estimates that at least one LGBTQ youth between the ages of 13–24 attempts suicide every 45 seconds in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, respectful, positive discussions on gender and sexuality helps LGBTQ youth feel safe, seen, valued, and respected, and decreases the educational, mental, and physical harms that they experience; and

WHEREAS, many people believe that the “Parental Rights in Education” bill sent a message to LGBTQ youth that their sexuality and identity are something that must be hidden, and prohibited, and severely restricted the activity of organizations in schools that provide companionship, emotional shelter and collegiality to teens in need of support; and

WHEREAS, with Florida schools and classrooms weaponized against the LGBTQ community and its youth, it is up to the parents and the surrounding community to encourage and normalize discussions regarding sexual orientation and gender identity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach is a diverse and inclusive community and has demonstrated a long history of opposing discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, among other categories; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission wish to allocate a one-time grant in the total amount of \$75,000 to Save Foundation, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation of the State of Florida, and South Florida’s leading organization dedicated to protect LGBTQ community against discrimination, to be used for development and implementation of a social media campaign for LGBTQ youth impacted by the “Parental Rights in Education” bill, subject to SAVE submitting a report by November 1, 2023, documenting the objectives achieved with the grant funding and compliance with all other terms of City’s standard grant agreement; and

WHEREAS, the campaign, entitled “Miami Beach Cares” would be distributed through social media, digital banners, and the City trolley with the goal of getting interested persons to a website with information and resources for parents and youth who are dealing with issues related to sexual orientation and gender identity; and

WHEREAS, at the March 31, 2023 Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee meeting, the Committee unanimously supported providing a \$75,000 grant in the first year, with two additional \$25,000 grants for a second and third year.

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 allocate a grant in the total amount of \$75,000 to Save Foundation, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation of the State of Florida, for development and implementation of a social media campaign for LGBTQ youth impacted by the "Parental Rights in Education" bill, widely known as the "Don't Say Gay" bill; further authorizing the City Clerk and City Manager to execute the City's Standard Grant Agreement with respect to the foregoing; and further, in view of the importance of this organization and the public purposes served by this programming, direct the City Administration to prioritize an allocation of a \$25,000 grant to Save Foundation, Inc., as part of the City's annual budget process for a second and third year.

PASSED and **ADOPTED** this ____ day of _____, 2023.

ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Commissioner David Richardson)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

4-19-23

Date