

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

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, STRONGLY OPPOSING HOUSE BILL 599, WHICH SEEKS TO PLACE RESTRICTIONS ON PRIVATE AND PUBLIC EMPLOYERS', EMPLOYEES', AND CONTRACTORS' USE OF PERSONAL PRONOUNS, AND BAN ANY NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION, OR AN EMPLOYER THAT RECEIVES STATE FUNDS FROM REQUIRING ANY TRAINING, INSTRUCTION, OR OTHER ACTIVITY ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, OR GENDER EXPRESSION; 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**, House Bill 599 (HB 599) has been filed for consideration during the Florida Legislature's 2024 session and seeks to make sweeping changes to Florida employment statutes to declare that "a person's sex is an immutable biological trait"; and

**WHEREAS**, if enacted, HB 599 would prohibit government employees or contractors from being compelled to use a person's pronouns, if those pronouns "do not correspond to his or her sex," and bar employers from asking any worker to state their own pronouns; and

**WHEREAS**, HB 599 would prevent trans employees from sharing their pronouns at all, and employees and contractors cannot "provide to an employer his or her preferred personal title or pronouns" if, again, they do not match the worker's assigned sex; and

**WHEREAS**, even more draconian, HB 599 would also ban any nonprofit organization, or an employer that receives state funds from requiring "any training, instruction, or other activity on sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression;" and

**WHEREAS**, the broad language used in the proposed bill could affect the City and its services, including its sensitivity trainings or services provided by the Human Resources and the Police Department regarding sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression; and

**WHEREAS**, for example, the City's Department has its very own Transgender Interactions Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) #050, which establishes guidelines for the appropriate, safe and dignified interactions with transgender individuals by members of the Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's very own's SOP #050 has served as a model for departments across the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, advocates have opined that if HB 599 is adopted, it could have devastating consequences for LGBTQ organizations, going as far as effectively torpedoing nonprofits, medical clinics, and advocacy organizations that work with members of the LGBTQ community, and those specialize in training staff—as well as outside entities—regarding queer and trans inclusion; 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.

**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 House Bill 599, which seeks to place restrictions on private and public employers', employees', and contractors' use of personal pronouns, and ban any nonprofit organization, or employer that receives state funds from requiring any training, instruction, or other activity on sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; and direct 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.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven Meiner, Mayor

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

(Sponsored by Commissioner Alex J. Fernandez)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

Rafael E. Granado      12/6/23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney      Date