



RESOLUTION NO. 41628

1 BY REQUEST OF COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ, HINES, AND RUMBAUGH

2 A RESOLUTION relating to civil rights, affirming and reaffirming the City's
3 commitment to ensuring that all individuals regardless of sexual
4 orientation or gender identity, feel safe and supported; its commitment to
5 diversity, inclusion, and justice, ensuring that all members of our
6 community can live authentically and without fear of discrimination or
7 harm; and to protecting the civil rights of our LGBTQIA2S+ community.

8 WHEREAS the City of Tacoma is committed to fostering a community
9 where all individuals are treated with dignity, equity, and respect, regardless of
10 sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, and

11 WHEREAS LGBTQIA2S+ individuals face ongoing discrimination,
12 violence, and systemic barriers that threaten their safety, well-being, and
13 human rights, and

14 WHEREAS transgender and non-binary people, in particular, have been
15 vilified in political advertisements, and the Heritage Foundation's Project 2025
16 outlines further plans to remove established rights and criminalize the existence
17 of transgender people, and

18 WHEREAS there have been several executive orders in recent weeks
19 targeting the LGBTQIA2S+ community, particularly targeting transgender youth,
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22 WHEREAS across the country there continues to be legislation proposed
23 and enacted that targets LGBTQIA2S+ communities, threatening access to
24 healthcare, education, and protections under the law, and
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1 WHEREAS the City recognizes the inherent worth and equal rights of all
2 people, including LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, and seeks to provide a safe and
3 welcoming environment for those who reside in or visit our city, and

4 WHEREAS the City commits to protecting and advocating for the rights
5 of LGBTQIA2S+ individuals by rejecting policies and actions that promote
6 discrimination, harm, or inequality, and embraces and supports Washington's
7 Law Against Discrimination, Chapter 49.60 Revised Code of Washington
8 ("RCW"), and Ordinance No. 28858, which adopted Chapter 9A.50 RCW
9 (Interference with Health Care Facilities or Providers) into the City's "Public
10 Safety" code to authorize the City Attorney to prosecute violations as a gross
11 misdemeanor in Tacoma Municipal Court should someone intentionally or
12 recklessly interfere with individuals' right to access a health care facility to seek
13 gender affirming care, and

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15 WHEREAS the City will continue to celebrate and uplift the voices and
16 contributions of LGBTQIA2S+ individuals through public events, education, and
17 partnerships with local organizations; Now, Therefore,

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19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

20 Section 1. That the foregoing Recitals are hereby adopted as the City
21 Council's legislative findings.

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23 Section 2. That the City Council strongly believes in and on behalf of the
24 City, affirms and reaffirms as follows:

- 25 a. The right of individuals to: (i) seek, obtain, provide, or facilitate gender-
26 affirming care, especially for youth, in accordance to state laws; (ii)



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have access to facilities by requiring the use of gender-segregated facilities, such as restrooms, locker rooms, dressing rooms, and homeless or emergency shelters, that are consistent with that individual's gender expression or gender identity; (iii) engage in speech or expression supporting LGBTQIA2S+ people; including but not limited to disseminating books and literature, engaging in the arts, holding discussions, and drag or other cultural performances; (iv) embrace and express their own authentic gender and sexuality and to define what gender and family means to them; including but not limited to dress and appearance, structuring a family unit that works best for them, and sharing LGBTQIA2S+ positive values with their children; and, (v) define their own gender and sex with or without regard to biological sex assigned at birth, and

- b. Its intent that no City resources, including, but not limited to, City property or time spent while on duty by a covered employee, shall be used for investigation, assisting an investigation, arrest, or prosecution of an individual on the basis of exercising their rights identified in subsection (a) above, and
- c. Its intent that in the event any law or regulation is passed in the State of Washington which imposes criminal punishment, civil liability, administrative penalties, or professional sanctions, on an individual or organization exercising their rights, the City Manager will be directed to



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- make enforcement of said law or regulation to be among the City's lowest enforcement priorities, and
- d. Its intent that whenever the City collects information about an individual or individual's sex or gender, it will not request gender assigned at birth; and, that the City will not seek to collect or disseminate information about sex assigned at birth, unless related to a criminal investigation of a violation of Washington State law, and
 - e. Its intent to actively oppose legislation or actions at the state or federal level that threaten the rights, safety, or dignity of LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, and
 - f. Its intent to commit to ongoing engagement and collaboration with local LGBTQIA2S+ community and cultural leaders to build understanding and awareness of needs specific to the LGBTQIA2S+ community, so the City can adapt to community-specific safety needs at gatherings and public events, and
 - g. Its intent that the police department will continue efforts to build trust with all people in the City, including our LGBTQIA2S+ community, and will actively investigate hate crimes, which include crimes targeting individuals due to their actual or perceived gender or sexual orientation, and
 - h. Its intent that the City will apply an equity analysis to all newly created policies to ensure they are inclusive, equitable, and affirming for



LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, and the administration of these policies
should be done equitably and without violating individual civil rights.

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Adopted _____

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Deputy City Attorney