

RESOLUTION
OF THE
BLOOMINGTON CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA
TO
PROTECT INDIVIDUALS SEEKING GENDER AFFIRMING CARE

WHEREAS, in 2023, members of the Indiana State Legislature introduced a record number of bills criminalizing or penalizing access to gender affirming healthcare across Indiana, at least one of which passed and is being challenged in federal court; and

WHEREAS, gender affirming healthcare has been proven to be evidence-based, medically necessary, and lifesaving by the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the American Academy of Pediatricians, the Endocrine Society, the American Psychiatric Association, and the World Professional Association for Transgender Health, amongst other institutions; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that gender transition, including access to gender-affirming healthcare, improves the overall wellbeing of transgender people and that access to gender-affirming healthcare for youth is associated with better mental health outcomes and lower risks of suicide; and

WHEREAS, multiple healthcare institutions across the country, including in Indiana, have scaled back or have considered scaling back gender-affirming healthcare services in response to legal challenges, perception of legal risk, harassment, or threats of violence; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to exercise the authority vested in the City of Bloomington, including the coordinated and integrated direction, supervision, and control of all City of Bloomington departments, boards, commissions, and other agencies, to protect healthcare professionals and persons lawfully seeking, receiving, and assisting another individual in seeking or receiving of gender-affirming healthcare in the City of Bloomington; and

WHEREAS, Bloomington City ordinance 2.23.110 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity; and

WHEREAS, The Bloomington-Monroe County Human Rights Commission is tasked by the Bloomington City Council and the Monroe County Council with the authority to investigate and enforce the City's non-discriminations ordinance, found in chapter 2.23.100 *et seq.* of the Bloomington Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Bloomington Monroe County Human Rights Commission fully supports this resolution, the draft of which was approved by the Commission on _____.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BLOOMINGTON CITY COUNCIL:

Section 1. That the Mayor and Council hereby declare the City of Bloomington a Safe Haven for Gender Affirming Healthcare.

Section 2. That the City of Bloomington hereby adopts the following Gender-Affirming Healthcare Policy:

1. City Personnel shall not impose administrative penalties on an individual or organization for providing, seeking, receiving, or assisting another individual who is seeking or receiving gender-affirming healthcare, except as otherwise required by law.
2. In the event any law or regulation is passed in the State of Indiana which imposes civil liability, administrative penalties, or professional sanctions, on an individual or organization for providing, seeking, receiving, or assisting another individual who is seeking or receiving gender-affirming healthcare, City personnel shall make enforcement of said law or regulation a low priority.
3. City personnel shall not enforce laws of other jurisdictions that impose civil liability, administrative penalties, or professional sanctions, on an individual or organization for providing, seeking, receiving, or assisting another individual who is seeking or receiving gender-affirming healthcare.
4. City personnel shall not respond to any request for information from another jurisdiction if the request is related to that jurisdiction's laws, rules, or regulations imposing criminal punishment, civil liability, administrative penalties, or professional sanctions, on an individual or organization for providing, seeking, receiving, or assisting another individual who is seeking or receiving gender-affirming healthcare, except as otherwise required by law.
5. City personnel shall not enforce or facilitate the collection of any judgment of another jurisdiction to the extent the judgment arises out of a cause of action in that jurisdiction based on providing, seeking, receiving, or assisting another individual who is seeking or receiving gender-affirming healthcare, except as otherwise provided by law.