

.....
(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES.

Encouraging the celebration of the month of June as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. GREEN of Texas submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Encouraging the celebration of the month of June as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month.

Whereas this resolution may be cited as the “Original LGBTQIA+ Pride Month Resolution of 2026”;

Whereas the Honorable Barney Frank, Member of Congress from 1981 to 2013, is recognized as an honorary cosponsor of this resolution;

Whereas Members of this Congress support the rights, freedoms, and equality of those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+);

Whereas, in August of 1966, the “Screaming Queens” of the Gene Compton’s Cafeteria Uprising in the Tenderloin District of San Francisco led one of the first recorded transgender uprisings that erupted in response to police harassment, and continued to protest police brutality and improper policing of the LGBTQIA+ community;

Whereas those who took a stand for human rights and dignity at the Stonewall Inn Uprising in New York City on June 28, 1969, were led by two brave and visible transgender women of color, Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera;

Whereas the LGBTQIA+ protesters at the Stonewall Inn Uprising and Gene Compton’s Cafeteria Uprising were subject to police harassment and invidious discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity;

Whereas within years of these decisive moments in history, LGBTQIA+ rights organizations were created in every major city of the United States;

Whereas Brenda Howard, a bisexual rights activist often called “The Mother of Pride”, helped to plan a Gay Pride Week and the Christopher Street Liberation Day Parade in June of 1970 to commemorate the first anniversary of the Stonewall Inn Uprising;

Whereas Brenda Howard’s Gay Pride Week and the Christopher Street Liberation Day Parade evolved into the annual New York City Pride March, and Pride celebrations are now known around the world;

Whereas, in December of 1973, the Board of the American Psychiatric Association voted to remove homosexuality from the American Psychiatric Association’s list of mental illnesses;

Whereas, in 1974, Elaine Noble became the first openly LGBTQIA+ candidate elected to a State legislature in the United States when she won a seat in the Massachusetts House of Representatives;

Whereas, in 1975, the Civil Service Commission eliminated the ban on the employment of gay people in most Federal jobs;

Whereas, on January 8, 1978, Harvey Milk made national news when he was sworn in as an openly gay member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors;

Whereas, on June 25, 1978, gay artist Gilbert Baker debuted a rainbow flag at the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day, and the flag was officially established as a symbol for LGBTQIA+ pride in 1994;

Whereas, in October of 1979, 75,000 people participated in the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights to demand equal civil rights for LGBTQIA+ people;

Whereas, in 1982, Wisconsin became the first State to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation;

Whereas, in 1983, after initial refusal from lead organizers to allow an openly LGBTQIA+ person to speak, Audre Lorde, a Black lesbian feminist, poet, and civil rights activist, was selected by Black LGBTQIA+ groups to speak at the 20th-anniversary commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s March on Washington in 1963;

Whereas, in 1987, Representative Barney Frank of Massachusetts became the first United States Representative to voluntarily come out as an openly gay Member of Congress;

Whereas Urvashi Vaid cofounded the Creating Change Conference in 1988, the largest annual LGBTQIA+ conference convening in the United States;

Whereas, in 1999, Monica Helms, a transgender activist, author, and United States Navy veteran, designed the transgender flag and introduced it at the 2000 Phoenix Pride parade to represent the rights and diversity of transgender people;

Whereas, on April 25, 1993, more than a million people took part in the March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay, and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation, one of the largest protests in United States history;

Whereas, on October 6, 1998, Matthew Shepard, a gay student at the University of Wyoming, was beaten, tortured, and left to die, drawing attention to LGBTQIA+ hate crimes and ultimately contributing to the passage of the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act in 2009;

Whereas, on November 28, 1998, Rita Hester, a Black transgender woman, was brutally murdered in her home, sparking the advent of Transgender Day of Remembrance, which is observed every year on November 20th to remember those who have been killed due to transphobia;

Whereas, in 2002, David Cicilline was elected mayor of Providence, Rhode Island, and became the first openly gay mayor of a state capital;

Whereas, on June 26, 2003, the Supreme Court of the United States held in *Lawrence v. Texas* that, under the 14th Amendment, States could not criminalize the private, intimate relationships of same-sex couples;

Whereas, in 2008, a Latino transgender man, Diego Miguel Sanchez, became the first openly transgender person appointed to the Platform Committee of the Democratic National Committee;

Whereas, on November 4, 2008, Stu Rasmussen of Silverton, Oregon, became the first openly transgender person to be elected mayor in the United States;

Whereas, on October 28, 2009, the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr., Hate Crimes Prevention Act was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Barack Obama, expanding existing Federal hate crime laws to include crimes motivated by a victim's actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability;

Whereas, on November 17, 2010, Phyllis Frye was appointed to the City of Houston Municipal Courts as the first openly transgender judge appointed in the United States;

Whereas Congress passed and President Barack Obama signed the repeal of Defense Directive 1304.26 ("Don't Ask, Don't Tell") in December of 2010, allowing gay, lesbian, and bisexual persons to serve openly in the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas, in October of 2011, the Girl Scouts of Colorado opened membership to a 7-year-old transgender girl;

Whereas, in December of 2011, Lane Lewis became the first gay man elected County Chair of the Democratic Party of Harris County, the 3rd largest county in the United States;

Whereas, on April 20, 2012, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ruled that discrimination on the basis

of gender identity is “sex discrimination” for purposes of title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964;

Whereas, on November 6, 2012, Representative Mark Takano of California, a Japanese American, became the first openly gay person of color elected to Congress;

Whereas, in 2013, the first LGBTQIA+ Pride Month resolution was introduced by Representative Al Green of Texas;

Whereas, on January 3, 2013, Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin was sworn in as the first openly gay United States Senator;

Whereas, on January 3, 2013, Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona was sworn in as the first openly bisexual Member of Congress;

Whereas, on March 7, 2013, the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 was reauthorized and included protections for transgender persons;

Whereas, on June 26, 2013, the Supreme Court held in *United States v. Windsor* that section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act was unconstitutional and that the Federal Government cannot discriminate against married same-sex couples when determining Federal rights, benefits, and obligations;

Whereas, on November 20, 2013, President Barack Obama posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Bayard Rustin, a civil rights pioneer and openly gay Black man who organized the March on Washington in 1963 and presented the crucial ten demands of the March on Washington in the summer of 1963;

Whereas, on June 17, 2014, Darrin P. Gayles became the first openly gay Black man to be confirmed as a Federal judge;

Whereas, on July 21, 2014, President Barack Obama took action to protect LGBTQIA+ workers by signing an Executive order prohibiting Federal contractors from discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity;

Whereas, on June 8, 2015, Olympic triathlete Chris Mosier became the first transgender athlete to earn a spot on Team USA;

Whereas, on June 9, 2015, the equal opportunity policy of the United States Armed Forces was updated to protect servicemembers from harassment and discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation;

Whereas, on June 23, 2015, Stonewall Inn in New York City received a landmark designation by the Landmarks Preservation Commission of New York City so that the Stonewall Inn cannot be torn down or developed without approval;

Whereas, on June 26, 2015, the Supreme Court in *Obergefell v. Hodges* held in a 5–4 ruling that the 14th Amendment requires all States to license marriages between same-sex couples and to recognize all marriages that were lawfully performed in a different State;

Whereas, on July 17, 2015, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ruled that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is “sex discrimination” for purposes of title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964;

Whereas since the 114th Congress, the Equality Act has been introduced every Congress, first by Representative David Cicilline and most recently by Representative Mark Takano, to amend the Nation’s Federal civil rights laws to explicitly include sexual orientation, gender identity,

and sex characteristics among the prohibited categories of discrimination in employment, housing, credit, education, public accommodation, federally funded programs, and jury service; it passed the House of Representatives with bipartisan support in both the 116th and 117th Congresses;

Whereas, in February of 2016, the Greater Houston LGBTQ+ Chamber of Commerce launched, becoming one of the leading economic voices in the greater Houston region, focusing on economic empowerment and inclusion for LGBTQIA+ entrepreneurs and professionals;

Whereas, on May 13, 2016, the Department of Justice and the Department of Education jointly released guidance to provide educators the information they need to ensure that transgender students attend school in an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sex;

Whereas, on May 18, 2016, Eric Fanning was sworn in as Secretary of the Army, the first time a branch of the United States Armed Forces was led by an openly gay person;

Whereas members of the LGBTQIA+ community are disproportionately affected by violence, including fatal violence with guns, intimate partner violence, and hate crimes;

Whereas, on June 12, 2016, one of the deadliest mass shootings in the modern history of the United States occurred at the gay nightclub Pulse in Orlando, Florida, on Latin night, leaving 49 people dead and another 58 people wounded;

Whereas between 2017 and 2022, more than 70 percent of known fatal violent activities toward transgender and gender-nonconforming people have involved a gun;

Whereas more than 40 percent of transgender adults report having attempted suicide in their lifetime;

Whereas according to a 2020 systematic review, transgender people are 1.7 times more likely to experience some form of intimate partner violence compared to cisgender people, and 2.5 times more likely to experience sexual intimate partner violence;

Whereas LGBTQIA+ people are five times more likely than non-LGBTQIA+ people to be victims of violent hate crimes;

Whereas LGBTQIA+ youth experience dating violence at rates significantly higher than their non-LGBTQIA+ peers;

Whereas, on June 30, 2016, the Department of Defense announced an immediate policy change allowing transgender servicemembers to serve openly without fear of retribution or penalty;

Whereas, on July 28, 2016, Sarah McBride, national press secretary for the Human Rights Campaign, spoke at the Democratic National Convention, making her the first transgender person to address a major party convention;

Whereas, on November 8, 2016, Kate Brown of Oregon became the first openly bisexual person to win a gubernatorial election;

Whereas, on January 30, 2017, the Boy Scouts of America announced that they would open membership to transgender boys;

Whereas, on June 27, 2017, residents of the District of Columbia became the first in the United States to be allowed to select a gender-neutral option on their driver's license;

Whereas, on November 7, 2017, the election of Andrea Jenkins to the Minneapolis City Council made her the first openly transgender woman to be elected to public office in a major United States city;

Whereas, on November 7, 2017, Phillippe Cunningham's election to the Minneapolis City Council made him the first openly transgender man to be elected to the city council of a major United States city;

Whereas, on November 7, 2017, Danica Roem of Virginia became the first openly transgender person to be elected to and seated in a State legislature;

Whereas, on November 6, 2018, Democratic Representative Jared Polis was elected Governor of Colorado, becoming the first openly gay man to be elected Governor in the United States;

Whereas, in April of 2019, Morehouse College announced that the historically all-male school would begin admitting transgender men in 2020;

Whereas, on May 20, 2019, Lori Lightfoot was sworn in as Mayor of Chicago, becoming the first Black lesbian mayor;

Whereas, on May 24, 2019, Taiwan became the first nation in Asia to legally recognize same-sex marriage;

Whereas, on June 15, 2020, the Supreme Court held that title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, also applies to sexual orientation and gender identity, and President Joe Biden

took steps to enforce all sex nondiscrimination laws to prohibit anti-LGBTQIA+ discrimination;

Whereas, in November of 2020, Representatives Ritchie Torres and Mondaire Jones, both Members of Congress representing New York districts, became the first openly gay Black persons elected to Congress;

Whereas, on March 24, 2021, Admiral Rachel Levine became the first openly transgender person to hold an office requiring confirmation by the Senate, and on October 19, 2021, became the first openly transgender four-star officer in the uniformed services;

Whereas, on May 16, 2022, Karine Jean-Pierre became the first openly lesbian African-American White House Press Secretary;

Whereas, on January 2, 2023, Zooey Zephyr became the first openly transwoman to serve in the Montana State legislature and was later barred from the Montana House floor after her comments rebuking proposed legislation that would ban gender-affirming care for children;

Whereas, on October 1, 2023, Laphonza Butler was appointed to the United States Senate, becoming the first openly lesbian Black Senator;

Whereas, on February 8, 2024, Nex Benedict, a 16-year-old Indigenous TNB+ (transgender and nonbinary) student in Oklahoma, died following a physical altercation in school that resulted in hospitalization;

Whereas, on January 3, 2025, Sarah McBride became the first openly transgender Member of Congress, making her the highest ranking openly transgender public official in United States history;

Whereas the Trump administration has repeatedly targeted the rights of LGBTQIA+ people, especially transgender people; Whereas the American Civil Liberties Union is currently tracking more than 525 anti-LGBTQIA+ bills that have been introduced in State legislatures across the United States thus far in 2026;

Whereas many of these bills disproportionately target transgender individuals, including by restricting access to health care, education, public accommodations, legal recognition, and other aspects of public life; and

Whereas, despite these attacks, the inclusion and acceptance of LGBTQIA+ persons in the United States continues to expand, with an understanding that Americans will remain steadfast in pursuing the goal of complete equality and respect for all, regardless of whom they love or who they are: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) recognizes that lesbian, gay, bisexual,
3 transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual
4 (LGBTQIA+) rights are human rights and are pro-
5 tected by the Constitution;

6 (2) recognizes that all United States citizens
7 should be treated fairly and equally regardless of
8 sexual orientation, sex characteristics, or gender
9 identity and that LGBTQIA+ history plays an inte-
10 gral role in the history of the United States;

11 (3) acknowledges the struggle of the Stonewall
12 Inn and Gene Compton's Cafeteria protesters and

1 countless other lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,
2 queer, intersex, and asexual people for equality;

3 (4) encourages the celebration of LGBTQIA+
4 Pride Month to provide a continuing opportunity for
5 all people in the United States to learn about the
6 discrimination and inequality that lesbian, gay, bi-
7 sexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual
8 people have faced, and continue to face, in tandem
9 with triumphs over tragedy and victories in spite of
10 barriers; and

11 (5) agrees that the United States must continue
12 to strive to ensure that the promise of equality is re-
13 alized for all people of the United States.