

RESOLUTION

Board of Hennepin County Commissioners

RESOLUTION: 24-0485

At a meeting of the Board of Hennepin County Commissioners on 11/19/2024, a motion was made by Irene Fernando, seconded by Debbie Goettel, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion passed.

WHEREAS, Transgender Day of Remembrance is an annual observance in November that honors the memory of transgender people around the world whose lives were cut short by anti-transgender violence; and

WHEREAS, this annual observance provides a platform for transgender communities and allies to raise awareness of the threat of violence faced by transgender, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming people, as well as the persistence of anti-transgender prejudice that permeates our society; and

WHEREAS, there have been a record number of transgender and gender nonconforming people killed across the United States, including 59 people in 2021, 41 in 2022, and at least 32 in 2023, according to the Human Rights Campaign, and

WHEREAS, transgender people have been attacked and murdered simply because of their gender identity, gender expression, or because of hatred of a transgender person's appearance, and

WHEREAS, research and advocacy organizations including the National Center for Transgender Equity, the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, and Human Rights Watch find that transgender persons, especially black transgender women, are at extreme risk of being the target of violent acts, and

WHEREAS, across the nation since 2021, states have enacted 171 anti-transgender bills, and

WHEREAS, of the almost 600 anti-transgender bills introduced in state legislatures in 2024, including Minnesota, 40 have passed so far, and

WHEREAS, during their most recent legislative sessions 17 states passed restrictions on medical care for transgender people, and

WHEREAS, a growing number of bills across the nation seek to specifically ban gender-affirming health care for minors, and

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota, through state law, administrative regulation, and Gubernatorial executive orders in 2023, declared itself a refuge for transgender people, and

WHEREAS, Hennepin County recognizes that transgender employees, residents and members of our communities are disproportionately affected by hate crimes and violence and experience compounding challenges in their daily lives due to discrimination, disproportionately high levels of

unemployment, and limited access to health care; and

WHEREAS, by observing the Transgender Day of Remembrance, Hennepin County recognizes and celebrates transgender, gender nonconforming, and nonbinary people and honors the memory of people who are transgender whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, November 20, 2024, as Transgender Day of Remembrance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners declares Hennepin County a Safe Place for transgender, gender nonconforming, gender expansive, lesbian, gay, bisexual, intersex, queer and questioning persons, and in doing so condemns acts of violence, intimidation, and harm against such persons, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners re-affirms their June 7, 2022 resolution (22-0216) to affirm the gender identity and expression of all employees, and through the administration of public programs, the gender identity and expression of its residents.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON 11/19/2024

The question was on the adoption of the resolution with the votes as follows:

Aye: 7 Commissioner Fernando, Commissioner Goettel, Commissioner Lunde, Commissioner Greene, Commissioner Conley, Commissioner Edelson, and Commissioner Anderson

Maria Rose



Maria Rose