

WHEREAS, hate crimes targeting LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, & queer) people have increased every year for the past four years; and

WHEREAS, members of the LGBTQ+ community currently experience the highest rate of hate-motivated violence among all marginalized communities in the United States; and

WHEREAS, mass shootings by domestic terrorists at LGBTQ+ gathering spaces such as Club Q and Pulse have created fear and trauma in LGBTQ+ communities across the country; and

WHEREAS, protests and demonstrations targeting drag shows and drag performers have increased dramatically over the last several years, with such protests being held in several locations in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, there has been a sharp increase in anti-LGBTQ+ legislation in the U.S., with 233 anti-LGBTQ+ bills filed in state legislatures across the country in January 2023 alone; and

WHEREAS, a version of Florida's "Don't Say Gay" bill has been filed in the N.C. Senate this session (SB49) which would prohibit discussion of LGBTQ+ identity in most elementary school classrooms and forcibly out LGBTQ+ students to their parents; and

WHEREAS, a bill has been filed in the N.C. House this session (HB43) that would prohibit gender-affirming healthcare; and

WHEREAS, access to safe, affirming spaces and gender-affirming healthcare is critical for the mental and physical health of LGBTQ+ people and teens in particular, who are four times more likely to consider suicide than their cisgender and heterosexual peers;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Hillsborough Board of Commissioners affirms the full civil and human rights of our LGBTQ+ community members.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hillsborough Board of Commissioners condemn all violence, hatred, and discrimination against LGBTQ+ people, including by our state's leaders and stands in opposition to HB43, SB49, and all legislation that erodes the safety, health, civil rights, and/or bodily autonomy of LGBTQ+ people, including minors.

Approved this 13th day of February in the year 2023.

Jenn Weaver, Mayor
Town of Hillsborough