

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 31, 2024 AS TRANSGENDER DAY OF
VISIBILITY IN WASHTENAW COUNTY AND SUPPORTING THE DISPLAY OF THE
TRANSGENDER PRIDE FLAG

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 6, 2024

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WHEREAS, Washtenaw County is committed to fostering a diverse and welcoming community and ensuring that every individual is treated with dignity, respect, and protected from discrimination or harm; and

WHEREAS, no federal or State of Michigan law currently prohibits discrimination based on gender identity in employment, housing, or public accommodations; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan's Department of Civil Rights has concluded that anti-LGBT discrimination "exists and is significant" and that such discrimination has "direct negative economic effects on Michigan"; and

WHEREAS, discrimination impedes Washtenaw County and the State of Michigan's ability to attract and retain talented, hard working, determined people and by extension economic growth and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, in the absence of state action by Michigan's legislature, forty-two Michigan communities have enacted local, comprehensive nondiscrimination ordinances; and

WHEREAS, March 31 has been recognized annually as "Transgender Day of Visibility" since 2009 when Michigan transgender activist Rachel Crandall founded the observance; and

WHEREAS, transgender individuals are more likely to be fired or denied a job, face harassment and bullying at school, become homeless or live in extreme poverty, be evicted or denied housing or access to a shelter, be denied access to critical medical care, and face greater risk of abuse and violence.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes "Transgender Day of Visibility" which takes place on March 31, 2024 and stands in solidarity with and in support of transgender people across the United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners will continue work with the Jim Toy Community Center, Washtenaw County's LGBTQ Resource Center and other community partners who are working towards gender- equality and representation to support ongoing efforts to improve the lives of transgender individuals in our county.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners reaffirms its commitment to fostering a diverse and welcoming community and ensuring that every individual is treated with dignity, respect, and protection from discrimination or harm.