

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH A WELCOMING COMMUNITY FOR ALL INCLUDING THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY.

WHEREAS, the City of Portsmouth strives to celebrate diversity and promote equitable policies that make the City a welcoming and inclusive community for all, including people of all gender identities and expressions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portsmouth recognizes its responsibility to safeguard all residents from discriminatory practices and barriers to Constitutionally guaranteed rights; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portsmouth recognizes that AdImpact has calculated that \$215 million of political attack advertisements were recently broadcast in elections across the country that targeted transgender people, which amounts to approximately \$134 per transgender person in the county; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portsmouth encourages its residents to not exclusively rely upon political campaign advertisements, social media commentary or cable news coverage to define different members of our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portsmouth views the relentless attack on one group in the Portsmouth community as an attack on all in the Portsmouth community.

WHEREAS, gender-affirming health care is evidence-based and broadly supported by major medical associations, including the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the American Psychiatric Association, the American Psychological Association, the American Counseling Association, the Endocrine Society, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American Urological Association, the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, and the Children's Hospital Association; and

WHEREAS, gender-affirming health care that is determined medically necessary, by the medical provider and patient or patient's caregiver, for the well-being of many transgenders, non-binary, and gender-expansive people who experience symptoms of gender dysphoria; and

WHEREAS, anyone (even those that do not identify as LGBTQ+) may need to utilize gender-affirming care; and

WHEREAS, people of all gender identities and expressions living in or visiting the City of Portsmouth have the support of this Council whose stance is that all lawful, medically necessary health care that promotes a person's physical and mental health and well-being should be protected; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, OHIO:

SECTION 1. Portsmouth City Council proclaims the City of Portsmouth a safe haven for all including the LGBTQ+ Community.

SECTION 2. The City of Portsmouth acknowledges the rights of all persons to access lawful healthcare.

SECTION 3. That this resolution is declared to be necessary to promote inclusivity, equality, and justice for all; WHEREFORE, this resolution shall go into full force and effect immediately upon its passage by the Council.