

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-R-159

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2023 AS LGBTQ HISTORY MONTH IN THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND ALL OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, LGBTQ History Month, founded in 1994 by Missouri high-school history teacher Rodney Wilson, is an annual month-long observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history, and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements; and

WHEREAS, the month of October was selected to coincide with National Coming Out Day (October 11), which was already established, and the anniversary of the first march on **Washington for gay and lesbian rights in 1979; and**

WHEREAS, the LGBTQ History Month is meant to highlight and celebrate the history and achievements of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people; and

WHEREAS, according to the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation ("GLAAD"), "during the early years, the celebration was largely marked by a call to action and commemoration ... but since then, LGBT History Month has blossomed into a national coordinated effort to highlight exemplary role models from the LGBT community"; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ History Month commemorates the impact that the LGBTQ community has had on local, national, and international history; honors members of the LGBTQ community who have been lost to hate crimes and HIV/AIDS; and features celebrations such as pride parades, picnics, parties, workshops, and concerts; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ identities have existed as long as humans have, but history books tend to either barely mention, completely ignore, or deliberately erase LGBTQ+ people's existence and contributions; and

WHEREAS, there are many reasons why LGBTQ History Month is important, including the following reasons: to remember those across the world who live without rights; to learn about historic LGBTQ+ figures and events; to remember how far we have come in the fight for equality;

to teach LGBTQ youth about the generosity and resiliency of the LGBTQ+ community, as well as the ability to stand up and achieve what they believe in; and

WHEREAS, during the last decade, our country has made tremendous strides in the LGBTQ equality movement, including legalizing gay marriage nationwide, electing LGBTQ elected officials on local, state, and federal levels, the repeal of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy; and

WHEREAS, celebrating LGBTQ History Month is particularly important now as the LGBTQ community is once again being targeted by a slew of homophobic and transphobic bills introduced and adopted across the country, including the state of Florida; and

WHEREAS, this year we must reflect not only on the progress that has been made in the national and global effort to advance human rights but also on the specific challenges that remain for members of LGBTQ communities in the U.S. and around the world; and

WHEREAS, the City of North Miami has demonstrated a longstanding commitment to recognize and honor the LGBTQ community, including supporting and encouraging a dialogue that promotes equality, dignity, and human rights for all; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council desire to designate the month of October 2023, as LGBTQ History Month to wholeheartedly reflect the City's commitment to represent and fight on behalf of all members of the LGBTQ community, including residents and visitors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA:

Section 1. **Designation.** The Mayor and City Council hereby designate the month of October 2023, as LGBTQ History Month in the City of North Miami.

Section 2. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a 5 - 0 vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, this 26th day of September, 2023.

Alix Desulme
ALIX DESULME, ED.D.
MAYOR

ATTEST:

VANESSA JOSEPH, ESQ.
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

Jeff P. H. Cazeau
JEFF P. H. CAZÉAU, ESQ.
CITY ATTORNEY

SPONSORED BY: COUNCILMAN GALVIN

Moved by: Galvin

Seconded by: Charles

Vote:

Mayor Alix Desulme, Ed.D.
Vice-Mayor Mary Estimé-Irvin
Councilman Scott Galvin
Councilwoman Kassandra Timothe, MPA
Councilman Pierre Frantz Charles, M.Ed.

(Yes) (No)
 (Yes) (No)
 (Yes) (No)
 (Yes) (No)
 (Yes) (No)