

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS SHARON DURKAN AND LIZ BREADON



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 31st AS TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY

- WHEREAS,** All genderqueer, non-binary and transgender people deserve the right to live, be seen and express their gender freely without persecution; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Transgender and non-binary individuals continue to face discrimination and challenges to their basic civil rights, including unacceptable acts of violence, especially against transgender women of color; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Transgender Day of Visibility celebrates the joy, strength, and resiliency of transgender people and gender non-binary people in the around the world who have too often had to put their jobs, relationships, and lives on the line just to be their true selves; *and*
- WHEREAS,** To be trans in this modern time necessitates leadership; to stand firm in one's own identity and bring awareness on gender expansiveness; to occupy spaces and halt misinformation and break from the mold of social silence; to pursue a visible unapologetic life; to be present, accounted and included in the fabric of social existence; and this precisely is the type of power that youth need as reference for models of a life worth living; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Support for the transgender and gender non-binary community has a strong foundation in grassroots activists; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Community activists of the City of Boston, including the nonprofit Trans Resistance, have made great strides to advocate for the rights of trans people in the city of Boston; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Fenway Community Health Center, now known as Fenway Health, was founded in 1971 as part of the free clinic movement by students who believed that "health care should be a right, not a privilege," has been working to make life healthier for the people in Boston, including the LGBTQIA+ community and people living with HIV/AIDS; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Luke Lennon (they/he/any) started the organization Namesake in 2021 to ensure that legacy systems support name changes for the LGBTQ+ community; their programs are more than IDs & account names their contribution is tenfold closing

the wealth & unemployment gap for trans, nonbinary, & gender expansive folks; and they contribute to making it safer to be trans & nonbinary in public; *and*

WHEREAS, Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition (MTPC), founded in 2001, is the only statewide advocacy organization led by trans people and focused solely on trans communities, advocating for all persons who have been, are, or might be deprived of equal rights and/or fair treatment because of their gender identity or gender expression; they offer programming such as workforce development, mentoring, training, material and financial support; *and*

WHEREAS, Activist Rachel Crandall Crocker proposed that allies and advocates alike change the narrative and celebrate the trans lives in their fullness including their contributions to society by encouraging festivities and celebrations– public demonstrations which became the annual International Transgender Day of Visibility; *and*

WHEREAS, Trans Day of Visibility focuses on highlighting the trans community and takes direct action in challenging the biases of people who don't understand the spectrum of gender; *and*

WHEREAS, Transgender Americans contribute to the fabric of the United States proudly serving in the military, curing deadly diseases, holding elected office, running thriving businesses, fighting for justice, raising families, and much more; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED: The Boston City Council and all residents, join us in lifting up the lives and voices of transgender people throughout our Nation and to work toward eliminating violence and discrimination against all transgender, gender nonconforming, and nonbinary people, and that the Boston City Council hereby recognize March 31st as Trans Day of Visibility and honor the contributions and achievements of trans people throughout Boston's history and contemporary society.

Filed on: March 25, 2024