

RESOLUTION NO. 22-48

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, OPPOSING SENATE BILLS 1834 AND 1820 AND HOUSE BILLS 1557 AND 747 IN THE 2022 FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE SESSION, URGING ALL MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS TO OPPOSE SENATE BILL 1834 AND HOUSE BILL 1557 WHICH, IF ENACTED, WOULD BAN DISCUSSION OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY IN PRIMARY GRADES, AND SENATE BILL 1820 AND HOUSE BILL 747 WHICH, IF ENACTED, WOULD ALLOW HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS AND INSURERS TO DENY A PATIENT ANY SORT OF CARE ON THE BASIS OF RELIGIOUS, MORAL, OR ETHICAL BELIEFS AND WOULD CREATE A LICENSE TO DISCRIMINATE BY ALLOWING FOR EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION IN HEALTHCARE, AND PROVIDING FOR DISTRIBUTION, DIRECTION TO THE CITY'S STATE LOBBYISTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1834 and House Bill 1557 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session provide that "[a] school district may not encourage classroom discussion about sexual orientation or gender identity in primary grade levels or in a manner that is not age-appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students"; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1820 and House Bill 747 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session provides that a health care provider or health care payor has the right not to participate in or pay for any specific health care service that violates the provider's or payor's conscience; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1820 and House Bill 747 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session provides that a health care provider that is a business entity or a health care payor that holds itself out to the public as religious and states in its governing documents that it has a religious purpose or mission and has internal operating policies or procedures that implement such purpose or mission has the right to make employment, staffing, contracting, and credentialing decisions consistent with the provider's or payor's religious beliefs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale prides itself on being welcoming, affirming, and inclusive for all residents, including all members of the LGBTQ+ community; and

WHEREAS, on September 17, 2019, the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale, reflecting our values as an entire community, enacted one of the most, if not the most, comprehensive human rights/anti-discrimination ordinances in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1834 and House Bill 1557 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session are vague in what they consider age or developmentally “appropriate,” which puts local school boards at risk of what would otherwise be considered frivolous lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1834 and House Bill 1557 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session would block teachers from talking about LGBTQ issues or people and would undermine existing protections for LGBTQ kids in schools, stigmatize LGBTQ people, isolate LGBTQ kids, and make teachers fearful of providing a safe, inclusive classroom; and

WHEREAS, the existence of LGBTQ students and parents is not a taboo topic that should be regulated by the Florida Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1820 and House Bill 747 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session, if signed into law, would create a license to discriminate by allowing for employment discrimination in healthcare, and would prioritize the beliefs of healthcare providers above a patient’s well-being;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, opposes Senate Bills 1834 and 1820 and House Bills 1557 and 747 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session, and urges all members of the Florida Legislature and Governor Ron DeSantis to oppose Senate Bills 1834 and 1820 and House Bills 1557 and 747.

SECTION 2. That the City Commission directs the City Clerk to transmit copies of this Resolution to the City’s state lobbyists, Governor Ron DeSantis, Senate President Wilton Simpson, Speaker of the House Chris Sprowls, the Broward League of Cities, the Florida League of Cities, the Broward County Legislative Delegation, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners, and any other interested parties.

SECTION 3. That the City Commission directs the City’s state lobbyists to advocate against Senate Bills 1834 and 1820 and House Bills 1557 and 747 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session.

SECTION 4. That if any clause, section, or other part of this Resolution shall be held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Resolution shall not be affected thereby, but shall remain in full force and effect.


SECTION 5. That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith, be and the same are hereby rescinded to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 6. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this 15th day of February, 2022.


Mayor
DEAN J. TRANTALIS

ATTEST:


City Clerk
DAVID R. SOLOMAN

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


City Attorney
ALAIN E. BOILEAU

Dean J. Trantalis	<u>Yea</u>
Heather Moraitis	<u>Not Present</u>
Steven Glassman	<u>Yea</u>
Robert L. McKinzie	<u>Not Present</u>
Ben Sorensen	<u>Yea</u>