

RESOLUTION NO. 22-47

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, OPPOSING SENATE BILL 148 AND HOUSE BILL 7 IN THE 2022 FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE SESSION, URGING ALL MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS TO OPPOSE SENATE BILL 148 AND HOUSE BILL 7 WHICH, IF ENACTED, WOULD MAKE IT AN UNLAWFUL EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE TO SUBJECT AN INDIVIDUAL, AS A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT, MEMBERSHIP, OR LICENSING, TO TRAINING OR INSTRUCTION THAT ESPOUSES, PROMOTES, ADVANCES, INCULCATES, OR COMPELS SUCH INDIVIDUAL TO BELIEVE THAT CERTAIN CONCEPTS CONSTITUTE DISCRIMINATION BASED ON RACE, COLOR, SEX, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN, AND WOULD DEEM IT TO BE DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, OR SEX, TO SUBJECT ANY PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT OR EMPLOYEE TO TRAINING OR INSTRUCTION THAT ESPOUSES, PROMOTES, ADVANCES, INCULCATES, OR COMPELS SUCH STUDENT OR EMPLOYEE TO BELIEVE CERTAIN CONCEPTS, AND PROVIDING FOR DISTRIBUTION, DIRECTION TO THE CITY'S STATE LOBBYISTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 148 and House Bill 7 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session would make it an unlawful employment practice, as a condition of employment, membership, certification, licensing, credentialing, or passing an examination, to subject an individual to training or instruction that espouses, promotes, advances, inculcates, or compels such individual to believe that certain concepts constitute discrimination based on race, color, sex, or national origin; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 7 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session would deem it discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex, to subject any public school student or employee to training or instruction that espouses, promotes, advances, inculcates, or compels such student or public school employee to believe certain concepts; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 148 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session, while allowing instructional personnel to "facilitate discussions and use curricula to address, in an age-appropriate manner, the topics of sexism, slavery, racial oppression, racial segregation, and racial discrimination, including topics relating to the enactment and enforcement of laws resulting in sexism, racial oppression, racial segregation, and racial discrimination," provides that "classroom instruction and curriculum may not be used to indoctrinate or persuade students to a particular point of view inconsistent with the principles of this subsection or state academic standards."; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 148 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session would require public school topics of instruction to be consistent with the following principles:

- No individual is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously, solely by virtue of his or her race or sex.
- No race is inherently superior to another race.
- No individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, or sex.
- Meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic are not racist but fundamental to the right to pursue happiness and be rewarded for industry.
- An individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, does not bear responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex.
- An individual should not be made to feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on account of his or her race.; and

WHEREAS, according to Senate Bill 148 and House Bill 7 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session, the concepts that could not be espoused, promoted, advanced, inculcated, or compelled to believe as constituting discrimination based on race, color, sex, or national origin in training or instruction as a condition of employment, membership, certification, licensing, credentialing, or passing an examination, and that would constitute discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex, in training or instruction of students and public school employees, are that:

- Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin are morally superior to members of another race, color, sex, or national origin.
- An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.
- An individual's moral character or status as either privileged or oppressed is necessarily determined by his or her race, color, sex, or national origin.
- Members of one race, color, sex, or national origin cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race, color, sex, or national origin.
- An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears responsibility for, or should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment because of, actions committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin.
- An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment to achieve diversity, equity, or inclusion.

- An individual, by virtue of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin, bears personal responsibility for and must feel guilt, anguish, or other forms of psychological distress because of actions, in which the individual played no part, committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, sex, or national origin (H.B. 7), or an individual should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on account of his or her race, color, sex, or national origin (S.B. 148).
- Such virtues as merit, excellence, hard work, fairness, neutrality, objectivity, and racial colorblindness are racist or sexist, or were created by members of a particular race, color, sex, or national origin to oppress members of another race, color, sex, or national origin.; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale is a recipient of the Florida Department of Education's 2021 Commissioner's Business Recognition Award; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale has shown its commitment to education through its Chief Education Officer and Education Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale enjoys a positive relationship with the School Board of Broward County; and

WHEREAS, it would be detrimental to the City of Fort Lauderdale if the State Legislature removes the power of the district school board from dictating the policies best for local schools, particularly when those policies are discriminatory, call for censorship, and/or force valuable teachers out of the profession; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 148 and House Bill 7 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session, if signed into law, would censor workplaces and schools from teaching honest LGBTQ history, Black history, the root causes of injustice and discrimination, and more;

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 Bill 148 and House Bill 7 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session, and urges all members of the Florida Legislature and Governor Ron DeSantis to oppose Senate Bill 148 and House Bill 7, and any other similar legislation or amendment that would.

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.

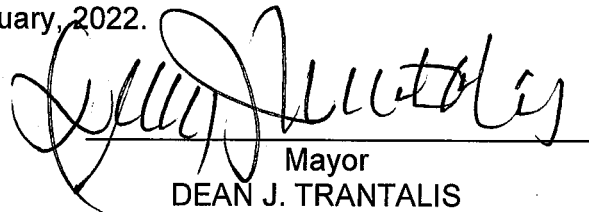
SECTION 3. That the City Commission directs the City's state lobbyists to advocate against Senate Bill 148 and House Bill 7 in the 2022 Florida Legislative Session.

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>