

**A RESOLUTION  
NO.**

**WHEREAS**, it is the purpose and intent of the Columbus Council to protect and safeguard the right and opportunity of all persons to be free from all forms of discrimination, and to ensure that all persons within Columbus have equal access to employment, housing, and public accommodations;

**WHEREAS**, the Columbus Council has previously demonstrated its commitment to these ideals in several acts of legislation:

- 1) Columbus Code Section 16B-1-2 codifies non-discrimination requirements applicable to the Merit System for Columbus Consolidated Government employees.
- 2) Council first approved an Affirmative Action Policy for the Consolidated Government in Resolution No. 221-76 and later reaffirmed that Policy in Ordinance No. 15-21. Under that policy the Consolidated Government implements programs to ensure non-discrimination in its employment practices and the Affirmative Action Administrator issues a report of the Consolidated Government's efforts each year which is available through the Clerk of Council's Office.
- 3) In Ordinance No. 15-21, Council approved the republication or revision of Policies No. 902, 903, and 904 which specifically protect Consolidated Government employees from employment discrimination on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual identity, sexual orientation or disability;
- 4) The Procurement Ordinance provides consideration for minority owned businesses and prohibits employment discrimination by City contractors. Columbus Code Section 2-3.03 paragraph 10-101; and

**WHEREAS**, this Council is presently considering a nondiscrimination ordinance which would prohibit discrimination throughout Columbus, Georgia in the areas of employment, housing and public accommodations on the basis of a person's race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, marital status, familial status, or veteran status.

**NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES:**

- 1) This Council reaffirms its commitment to the enforcement of all of the Ordinances and policies currently in place in Columbus, Georgia as described above;
- 2) This Council hereby affirms its commitment to prohibit all forms of discrimination which subject any person to differential treatment as a result of that person's race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, marital status, familial status, or veteran status in the areas of employment, housing and public accommodations; and
- 3) This Council commits to conduct further study as to the appropriate enforcement mechanism for a Columbus, Georgia nondiscrimination ordinance and shall endeavor to adopt such an ordinance no later than August 31, 2021.

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Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held on the 11th day of May, 2021 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of \_\_\_\_ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting	_____
Councilor Barnes	voting	_____
Councilor Davis	voting	_____
Councilor Huff	voting	_____
Councilor Crabb	voting	_____

Councilor Walker voting \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor House voting \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Thomas voting \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Tucker voting \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Woodson voting \_\_\_\_\_

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Sandra T. Davis  
Clerk of Council

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B.H “Skip” Henderson, III  
Mayor