

A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2021, AS LGBTQ HISTORY MONTH IN THE CITY OF NORMAN.

- § 1. WHEREAS, the City of Norman is proud to show support of the advancements made in our community and continuous efforts to support the LGBTQ+ community this month and throughout; and
- § 2. WHEREAS, LGBTQ History Month was initiated in 1994 by a Missouri High School teacher who believed a month should be dedicated to the celebration and teaching of gay and lesbian history; and
- § 3. WHEREAS, the month of October includes October 11, Coming Out Day, which was first celebrated in 1988 and counters homophobia by eliminating an atmosphere of silence and ignorance; and
- § 4. WHEREAS, the City of Norman is committed to advance and improve the through the modernization of ordinance and policies to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and marital status as same-sex couples in housing, employment, and public accommodations; and
- § 5. WHEREAS, in June 2021, Norman became the first city in the state of Oklahoma to pass an ordinance banning Conversion Therapy, a practice research shows increases suicide risk in young people subjected to it and that has been disavowed by human rights organizations and the American Medical Psychological and Psychiatric Associations; and
- § 6. WHEREAS, the City of Norman workforce stands behind its support for the LGBTQ+ community through the Norman Police Department's use of rainbow-design badges and pins, which have been a sign of equality for the LGBTQ community since the pride flag was adopted in 1978 and through the recently launched LGBTQ Alliance Employee Resource Group;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA:

- § 7. Do hereby proclaim the month of October 2021, as LGBTQ History Month in the City of Norman.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 26th day of October, 2021.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk