

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS**

**By B. Johnson**

**Reaffirming the City's Commitment to Champion Civil Rights and Equity.**

Whereas, the Indiana State Legislature passed and Indiana Governor Mark Pence signed into law Senate Enrolled Act No. 101, titled as the "Religious freedom Restoration Act"; and

Whereas, Indiana's new statute provides individuals and any type of business, whether for-profit or non-profit, irrespective of its purpose, the right, based on religious belief, to discriminate against a person because of his or her sexual orientation or any other protected category; and

Whereas, Indiana's new statute is inconsistent with the work and values of the Minneapolis City Council and Mayor to promote equity, to end discrimination, to eliminate institutional racism and to advance social justice for the people of Minnesota; and

Whereas, Indiana's new statute expressly provides that Indiana's law does not provide a person a right to access the civil justice system if he or she is subjected to a discriminatory act as a result of its enactment; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis is a welcoming, inclusive City that values the contributions and safety of all who live, work and visit the City and as an employer the contributions and safety of all its employees; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis is pleased to support Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard and the Indianapolis City-County Council who have called upon Governor Pence and the Indiana General Assembly either to repeal the discriminatory law or to enact state-wide legal protections for LGBT people; and

Whereas, the Indiana State Legislature passed and Indiana Governor Mark Pence signed an amendment to the new statute yesterday, April 2, 2015, adding a new Section 0.7, which states that the statute does not: (1) authorize a provider to refuse to offer or provide services, facilities, use of public accommodations, goods, employment, or housing to any member of the general public on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, age, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or United States military service; (2) establish a defense to a civil action or criminal prosecution for refusal to provide such services; or (3) negate any rights available under the constitution of the State of Indiana; and

Whereas, the State of Arkansas enacted a similar statute as Indiana and also amended said law yesterday, April 2, 2015, so that it conforms to an existing federal law; and

Whereas, the State of Indiana, along with twenty-seven other states in the nation, offer no protections in housing, employment, and public accommodations to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender citizens, leaving these people exposed to discrimination in a variety of ways every day of their lives;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the Minneapolis City Council hereby affirms the City's commitment to civil rights and ensuring equity for all people in Minneapolis and beyond and calls on the State of Indiana as well as the other twenty-seven states in the nation which offer no protections in housing, employment, and public accommodations to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender citizens, to establish this group of people as a protected class and put into place these protections as quickly as possible and to then vigorously enforce and protect the civil rights of all people within their borders regardless of race, color, religion, ancestry, age, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other protected class status and to prevent discrimination against any protected group.