



Resolution NO. 181

A Resolution Declaring July "Pride Month" in the City of Battle Creek and directing staff to fly the Pride Flag for the duration of the month.

BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN - 7/6/2021

Resolved by the Commission of the City of Battle Creek:

WHEREAS, President Bill Clinton declared June "Gay and Lesbian Pride Month" in June of 2000 to commemorate the June 1969 Stonewall riots in Lower Manhattan; and

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama expanded the commemoration further by declaring June Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month; and

WHEREAS, Pride Month is not only a time of celebration, but it is also an opportunity to peacefully protest and raise political awareness of current issues facing the LGBTQ+ community, and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. said the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice. Each of us who works for social change also works for justice. Change takes a long time, but it does happen. Sometimes change occurs through individual advocacy, sometimes through policy reform, sometimes through a lawsuit, and sometimes through a simple resolution and proclamation; and

WHEREAS, The City of Battle Creek has a proud place in the history of LGBTQ+ equality in the successful passing of our Inclusive Non-Discrimination Ordinance in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the rainbow Pride Flag promotes a symbol of inclusion, not division, and sends a positive message to the young people in our community that says, irrespective of your sexual orientation, or your gender identity and expression, you are safe, valued, empowered, and supported by your peers and your community leaders; and

WHEREAS, while the City of Battle Creek has a long and proud tradition of being an inclusive community, it recognizes that as long as injustice exists it threatens all that has been accomplished; and

WHEREAS, June has become a symbolic month in the U.S. and around the world for LGBTQ+ people and their allies to come together in various celebrations of acceptance, equality, and pride. This has been an established custom since the 1969 "Stonewall Uprising", which served as the catalyst for the modern day LGBTQ+ civil rights

movement. And the month of July is when we traditionally celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride Month in the City of Battle Creek.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Battle Creek City Commission declares July as “Pride Month” and directs staff to fly the Pride Flag through the duration of the month.