

RESOLUTION NO. 39-2019

Strongly Urging Members of the Ohio General Assembly to Enact the Ohio Fairness Act.

WHEREAS, Ohio is among 28 states where sexual orientation and gender expression are not protected classes; and,

WHEREAS, although a 2015 U.S. Supreme Court decision legalized same-sex marriage in all 50 states, Ohioans can still be denied housing, employment or services based on sexual orientation or gender expression without repercussions to the employer, business or landlord; and,

WHEREAS, Worthington is a community that values equality and non-discrimination, and has a long tradition of inclusion and respect for people of diverse backgrounds; and,

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2019, Worthington became the 24th locality in the state of Ohio to pass a comprehensive nondiscrimination ordinance (Ordinance No. 14-2019) that includes sexual orientation and gender expression as protected classes; and,

WHEREAS, Ohio Senate Bill 11, commonly referred to as the “Ohio Fairness Act” seeks to update discrimination laws to provide statewide protections based on sexual orientation, gender identification and gender expression.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Municipality of Worthington, County of Franklin, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. The City encourages the Ohio General Assembly to consider Ohio Senate Bill 11 or other similar legislation to update discrimination laws to include sexual orientation, gender identification and gender expression, and urges members of the Ohio Legislature to support such legislation.

SECTION 2. That the Clerk of Council be and hereby is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to Senator Stephanie Kunze, Representative Beth Liston, and other relevant state public officials and organizations.

SECTION 3. That the Clerk of Council be and hereby is instructed to record this Resolution in the appropriate record book.

Adopted June 17, 2019

/s/ Bonnie D. Michael
President of Council

Attest:

/s/ D. Kay Thress
Clerk of Council