

A RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING THE STONEWALL RIOTS OF 1969

WHEREAS, On June 28, 1969, at the Stonewall Inn in New York City's Greenwich Village, members of our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) community took a nearly-unprecedented move against political, social, legal, and police oppression, resulting in the multiple-day Stonewall Riots and Rebellion; and

WHEREAS, These community members – many of whom identified among the most oppressed and marginalized in our community, including transgender people, the homeless, sex workers, youth, and people of color – summoned the courage and conviction to stand for the most timeless and cherished human values of freedom and liberation; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ people across the United States first commemorated the Stonewall Riots and Rebellion with the first Christopher Street Liberation Day march on June 28, 1970, and

WHEREAS, Each annual commemoration of these landmark riots has thus inspired continued movement toward equality and inclusion, as well as the annual Pride festivals and parades celebrated across the globe each year today, including celebrations and commemorations in the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, this year on August 26 and 27, 2017; and

WHEREAS, The LGBTQ community, especially those among us who are transgender, people of color, immigrants, refugees or low-income people, continue to be targets for violence, legal discrimination, and oppression, as evidenced by recent legislation and policies in North Carolina, throughout the United States, and across the globe; and

WHEREAS, Recent events in the City of Charlotte have shown us that even now, nearly 50 years after Stonewall, LGBTQ people, especially transgender people and people of color, among whom were the core organizers of the Charlotte Uprising in Autumn 2016, continue to be disproportionately targeted for unjust arrest, police profiling, and legal harassment; and

WHEREAS, The Spirit of the Stonewall Riots and Rebellion of 1969, the resulting Liberation Movement, and the universal kinship of all humankind naturally calls each of us to a broader understanding of equality and compels us to speak out against unjust discrimination, oppression, and violence wherever and whenever it may occur;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

We, the members of the Board of Directors of Charlotte Pride, Inc., recommit ourselves to the timeless values of self-evident and universal equality which underpin our movement toward LGBTQ liberation, inspired our nation's founding, and which continue to shape our evolving national conscience; and

We, in the Spirit of Stonewall, call for the governments of the United States of America, the State of North Carolina, and the City of Charlotte to take immediate and uncompromising action to fully repeal any and all anti-LGBTQ legislation and immediately enact federal, state, and local statutes inclusive of sexual orientation and gender identity protecting against discrimination in public and private employment, housing, public accommodations, health care, hate crimes, and education; and

We call for the immediate end to all unjust and politically, racially, sexually or gender motivated arrest, police profiling, and legal harassment of LGBTQ people and of people of color who have engaged in their sacred First Amendment rights to freedoms of speech, assembly, association, and protest; and

We appeal to all people of goodwill to join with us in our calls for an immediate and uncompromising LGBTQ liberation in Charlotte, North Carolina, the United States and across the globe.

**PASSED THIS FIFTEENTH DAY OF JUNE IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND SEVENTEEN WITH
THE UNANIMOUS CONSENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CHARLOTTE PRIDE, INC.**

Craig Hopkins, President Daniel Valdez, Vice President Kacey Grantham, Secretary Richard Grimstad, Treasurer
Directors: Nan Bangs, Matt Comer, Abdul Green, Maurice Hemphill, Lee Robertson

