

Resolution No.: 18-456
Introduced: April 19, 2016
Adopted: April 26, 2016

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead Sponsor: Councilmember Navarro
Co-Sponsors: Council President Floreen, Council Vice President Berliner, Councilmembers Elrich, Hucker, Katz, Leventhal, Rice, and Riemer

SUBJECT: Resolution condemning anti-LGBT discrimination laws and calling on the County Executive to suspend official County travel to jurisdictions where those laws are in place

Background

1. Montgomery County has a long history of supporting civil rights and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Community.
2. Montgomery County was one of the first jurisdictions in the nation to extend health and insurance benefits to same-sex domestic partners and to require that County contractors extend those same benefits to their employees.
3. In 2012, Maryland became the first jurisdiction in the country to legalize marriage equality through a popular vote.
4. In 2015, the United States Supreme Court ruled in *Obergefell v. Hodges* that all states were required to perform and recognize same-sex marriages under the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
5. In a troubling trend, some states have enacted laws that codify discrimination against LGBTQ people.
6. North Carolina's General Assembly passed a law, signed by Governor Pat McCrory, eliminating nondiscrimination provisions for LGBT individuals by city governments.
7. Mississippi's General Assembly passed a law, signed by Governor Phil Bryant, sanctioning discrimination by individuals, businesses, and religiously-affiliated organizations against LGBT people.

8. As a place that stands for equality and respect, Montgomery County should not support jurisdictions that have enacted laws that perpetuate hate, fear, and bigotry.

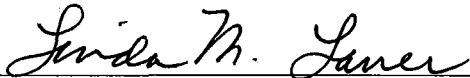
Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following resolution:

The County Council:

1. supports the residents of North Carolina and Mississippi who are seeking to repeal these discriminatory laws;
2. condemns the discriminatory laws passed in North Carolina and Mississippi; and
3. urges the County Executive to temporarily suspend any County employee non-essential work-related travel to the State of North Carolina or the State of Mississippi until such time as these discriminatory laws are repealed.

This is a correct copy of Council action.



Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council