

RESOLUTION NO. 19- ____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY, FLORIDA, URGING THE UNITED STATES SENATE TO APPROVE SENATE BILL 788, ALSO KNOWN AS “THE EQUALITY ACT,” WHICH WILL SERVE TO EXTEND FEDERAL ANTI-DISCRIMINATION PROTECTIONS TO LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER, (“LGBT”) AMERICANS, BY PROVIDING THEM WITH EQUAL PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town of Cutler Bay (the “Town”) supports our Nation’s civil rights laws, which protect people on the basis of race, color, national origin, and in most cases, sex, disability, and religion; and

WHEREAS, the Town acknowledges our Nation’s civil rights do not provide consistent non-discrimination protections based on sexual orientation or gender identity; and

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2019, the United States House of Representatives, passed a Bill H.R. 5, entitled the “Equality Act” which would extend federal anti-discrimination protections to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Americans; and

WHEREAS, the United States Senate version of H.R. 5, Senate Bill 778, also entitled the “Equality Act” and identical in use, was introduced to the Senate on March 13, 2019, but no action has been taken beyond referring the bill to the Senate Judiciary Committee; and

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2019, the City of Miami Beach passed Resolution No. 19-30837 urging the United States Senate to approve Senate Bill 778, which will serve to extend federal anti-discrimination protections to LGBT Americans by providing them with equal protection under the law; and

WHEREAS, the Town equally urges the United States Senate to vote on and approve Senate Bill 788, as passage of the Equality Act will provide a uniform standard of protection nationwide that will ensure that LGBT Americans are no longer treated as second-class citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Town finds that this Resolution will promote the health, safety and welfare of the Town.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. **Recitals.** The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. **Support.** The Town Council hereby supports Senate Bill 778 entitled the "Equality Act", which defines and includes sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity among the prohibited categories of discrimination or segregation.

Section 3. **Transmittal.** The Town Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to: Honorable United States Representative Donna Shalala, Honorable Florida Senator Marco Rubio, and Honorable Florida Senator Rick Scott.

Section 4. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this ____ day of July, 2019.

TIM MEERBOTT
Mayor

Attest:

MAURICIO MELINU
Deputy Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE
SOLE USE OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY:

WEISS SEROTA HELFMAN
COLE & BIERMAN, P.L.
Town Attorney

Moved By: _____
Seconded By: _____

FINAL VOTE AT ADOPTION:

Mayor Tim Meerbott _____

Vice Mayor Sue Ellen Loyzelle _____

Council Member Robert “BJ” Duncan _____

Council Member Michael P. Callahan _____

Council Member Roger Coriat _____