

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, AFFIRMING THAT THE CITY OF KEY WEST CONTINUES TO BE A WELCOMING CITY, COMMITTED TO ENSURING THE RIGHT OF RESIDENTS AND VISITORS, INCLUDING DRAG QUEENS, GENDER NONCONFORMING, TRANSGENDER, CISGENDER AND ALL MANNER OF HUMANS TO WALK UPON, AND TO USE, PUBLIC SPACES WEARING ATTIRE OF THEIR OWN CHOOSING (SO LONG AS IT IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CITY'S NUDITY ORDINANCE, AND PUBLIC HEALTH REQUIREMENTS - NO SHIRT NO SHOES NO SERVICE!); ACKNOWLEDGING THE DRAG COMMUNITY FOR ELEGANCE AND ORIGINALITY, FOR THEIR ABILITY TO UNITE THE COMMUNITY AND FOR BOUNDLESS EVENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS BENEFITING THE CHARITABLE CAUSES OF OUR CITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City of Key West has long been recognized as a welcoming, safe environment where families and individuals are encouraged to express themselves without fear of reprisal or discrimination; and

WHEREAS, Key West's "One Human Family" philosophy represents a commitment to protect the human rights of all citizens, and the Key West City Commission categorically condemns violence, discrimination, hate, intimidation, harassment or similar acts that undermine the fabric of what makes the Key West community unique and vibrant; and

WHEREAS, the Governor recently signed FL SB 1438/HB 1423, which prohibits establishments from admitting children to an "adult" live performance. It was drafted specifically in response to performances of a "Drag Show Christmas," at a handful of venues on the mainland (NOT Key West), however the intent was broadly promoted by some legislators as a ban on drag shows and drag queens in public spaces; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that on the streets and at many businesses in Key West, drag queens are advocates, ambassadors, owners and valued members of the community. Their presence is welcome, and necessary, in Key West. Drag Queens do not present a moral or ethical hazard to the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the City Commission affirms that the City of Key West is a welcoming city, committed to ensuring the right of residents and visitors, including drag queens, gender nonconforming, transgender, cisgender and all manner of humans to walk upon, and to use, public spaces dressed in attire of their own choosing (so long as it is in compliance with the City's nudity ordinance, and health and safety regulations - no shirt no shoes no service applies to all in service establishments.)

Section 2: That the City Commission acknowledges and supports the many contributions of the drag community in Key West. Along with appreciation for their elegance and originality, looks and personas, they are celebrated for serving the community and for their boundless contributions to our city and its myriad causes.

Section 3: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held this _____ day of _____, 2023.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on _____ day of _____, 2023.

Filed with the Clerk on _____, 2023.

Mayor Teri Johnston	_____
Vice Mayor Sam Kaufman	_____
Commissioner Lisette Carey	_____
Commissioner Mary Lou Hoover	_____
Commissioner Clayton Lopez	_____
Commissioner Billy Wardlow	_____
Commissioner Jimmy Weekley	_____

TERI JOHNSTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK