

Sponsors: Duncan/Christianson

POSSIBLE MOTION

I MOVE TO approve Resolution 2023-23 on first and final reading affirming the month of June as Pride Month in honor of the LGBTQIA+ community.

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

RESOLUTION NO. 2023 – 23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA AFFIRMING THE MONTH OF JUNE AS PRIDE MONTH IN HONOR OF THE LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka stands in solidarity with the LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, plus more) community; and,

WHEREAS, the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka affirms the rights of all members of the LGBTQIA+ community to live their authentic lives; and,

WHEREAS, the Stonewall Inn opened in March 1967 at 53 Christopher Street in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of New York City; the neighborhood of Greenwich Village, and establishments like the Stonewall Inn, served as a sanctuary from persecution by police and society at large for members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community; and,

WHEREAS, around the time of the opening of the Stonewall Inn, many state and local governments sought to criminalized how LGBTQIA+ individuals expressed their identities and relationships, which resulted in LGBTQIA+ individuals frequently being targeted by law enforcement; and,

WHEREAS, in the early hours on June 28, 1969, the NYPD raided the Stonewall Inn and arrested many patrons; and,

WHEREAS, brave patrons and activists, mainly transgender women of color, organized against the injustices on the night of June 28, 1969, which sparked a larger uprising against the NYPD, with confrontations and protests at the Stonewall Inn and the surrounding area lasting until July 3, 1969; and,

WHEREAS, on June 27-28, 1970, members of the LGBTQIA+ community commemorated the first anniversary of Stonewall and reaffirmed the solidarity of the LGBTQIA+ community and allies by organizing the first Pride marches and celebrations in New York City, San Francisco, Chicago, and Los Angeles; and,

WHEREAS, the Stonewall Uprising is remembered and celebrated every year in June as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month; and,

WHEREAS, WorldPride was inaugurated in June 2019 in the United States in New York City to commemorate the Stonewall Uprising, bringing together representatives of the global LGBTQIA+ community together to recognize these historic events; and,

WHEREAS, despite the progress of the last 50 years, members of the LGBTQIA+ community still experience systemic bias and are at significant risk of violence and discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, according to the annual hate crimes report published by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, LGBTQIA+ individuals, particularly LGBTQIA+ individuals of color, continue to be the target of bias-motivated violence; and,

WHEREAS, no individual or community in the United States should have to fear being the target of violence or systemic oppression because of who they love and how they identify.

45 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka
46 recognizes PRIDE month to commend the bravery, solidarity and resiliency of the LGBTQIA+
47 community in the face of violence and discrimination; and stand with the LGBTQIA+ community
48 in the continuous fight for justice and equity; and

49 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that June 2023 will be recognized as Pride Month in the City
50 and Borough of Sitka.

51 **PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka,
52 Alaska, on this 13th day of June, 2023.

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Steven Eisenbeisz, Mayor

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57 ATTEST:

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Sara Peterson, MMC

61 Municipal Clerk

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63 1st and final reading: 6/13/23

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65 Sponsors: Duncan/Christianson

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