

RESOLUTION NO. _____-2021

RECOGNIZING and honoring Shawn Baker for his activism and involvement in the formation of Cincinnati Pride, Inc. and the Human Rights Campaign, his leadership of CincyPAC and the Mount Auburn Community Council, and his participation in many other non-profit organizations promoting social justice and community empowerment.

WHEREAS, June is LGBT Pride Month, which celebrates the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (“LGBT”) community and recognizes the impact LGBT individuals have had on the City of Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker served as co-president of Cincinnati Pride, Inc., a non-profit festival celebrating LGBTQ+ “folks, friends, and allies,” fostering its growth into the fourth largest event in the Cincinnati region, and its ability to financially support other community organizations, for which Cincinnati Pride, Inc. honored him in 2015; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker was part of the genesis of what eventually became the Cincinnati chapter of the Human Rights Campaign (“HRC”), and served HRC as a Federal Club member and as chair of its political sub-committee; and

WHEREAS, he also served as President of CincyPAC, a non-partisan political action committee advocating for young professionals in the city; and

WHEREAS, since 2001 Mr. Baker has committed himself to non-profit board service, including VISIONS Community Services, which assisted young families in breaking the cycle of poverty, many of whom were associated with William Howard Taft High School; and

WHEREAS, he served for two elected terms as a member of the Cincinnati Branch of the NAACP Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker is currently the vice-president of the Mt. Auburn Community Council; and

WHEREAS, for the past two decades, Mr. Baker has been a proud and active member of the Hamilton County Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, in 2014 he was named one of *Cincinnati Business Courier’s* “Forty Under 40” as part of the next generation of young leaders and innovators; and

WHEREAS, through his long history of political and social activism on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community and others in Cincinnati, Mr. Baker has demonstrated visionary leadership; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and Council of the City of Cincinnati hereby recognize Shawn Baker for his activism and involvement in the formation of Cincinnati Pride, Inc. and the Human Rights Campaign, his leadership of CincyPAC and the Mount Auburn Community Council, and his participation in many other non-profit organizations promoting social justice and community empowerment.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that copies be provided to Mr. Baker through the office of Councilmember Chris Seelbach.

Passed: _____, 2021

John Cranley, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

Submitted by Councilmember Seelbach