

EESW

RESOLUTION NO. 53 - 2023

RECOGNIZING June 16, 2023 as Cincinnati Black Gay Pride Day.

WHEREAS, the first LGBTQIA+ Pride was the commemoration of the one-year anniversary of the Stonewall riots, which served as a catalyst for the LGBTQIA+ movement for civil rights in the United States and around the world; and

WHEREAS, 52 years ago, in the early hours of June 28, 1969, New York City police violently raided the Stonewall Inn, a popular gay bar, and hauled off employees and patrons - a majority of whom were black or brown; and

WHEREAS, Black Gay Pride strengthens collective power by providing a culturally specific celebration for communities that live at the intersections of racism, homophobia, transphobia, and/or sexism; and

WHEREAS, queer people of color face a myriad of obstacles, from disparities in income and access to healthcare, to racism within the LGBTQIA+ community, and higher rates of homelessness, unemployment, incarceration, and HIV infection; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 26.3 percent of high school students who are part of the LGBTQIA+ community have reported attempting suicide in the past twelve months; and

WHEREAS, these factors not only disproportionately affect queer people of color but also take an unfair toll on the next generation; and

WHEREAS, Black Gay Pride is more important than ever as the need for the collective voice of queer people of color has never been more clear or more urgent, and after years of being silenced and ignored, these voices deserve to be heard; and

WHEREAS, Black Gay Pride is a celebration of community and of the self, and recognizes the inherent dignity, power, and beauty of all people, especially queer people of color; and

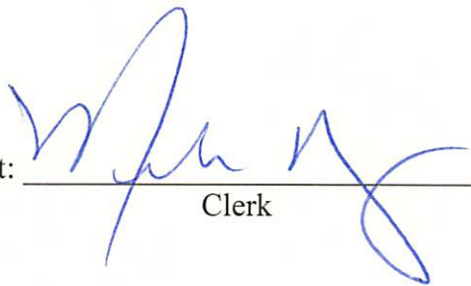
WHEREAS, the history of the Black LGBTQIA+ community in Cincinnati is a story of rises and falls, successes and failures, and today we celebrate and uplift the history of the day as well as the future of inclusion we champion; now, therefore,

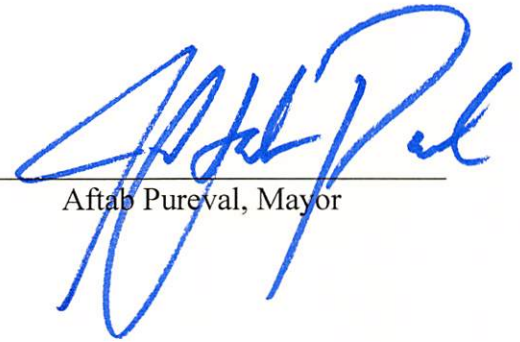
BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council recognize June 16, 2023 as Cincinnati Black Gay Pride Day.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council.

Passed: June 14, 2023

Attest: 
Clerk


Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Submitted by Mayor Aftab Pureval, Councilmember Reggie Harris, Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney, and Councilmembers Mark Jeffreys, Liz Keating, Meeka Owens, and Seth Walsh