City of Cincinnati

CNS

An Ordinance No.

- 2025

AMENDING Ordinance No. 175-2025, which established Cincinnati's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, and other sexual and gender identities (LGBTQIA+) Commission, to change various provisions related to the composition of the Commission and the length of the appointment terms for Commission members.

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2025, Council passed Ordinance No. 175-2025, which established Cincinnati's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, and other sexual and gender identities ("LGBTQIA+") Commission, to advise and make recommendations to the Mayor, Council, and the Administration on all issues of concern for LGBTQIA+ individuals within Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, after additional engagement with members of Cincinnati's LGBTQIA+ community, there is a need to amend Ordinance No. 175-2025 to change the composition of the Commission and the length of the appointment terms for Commission members; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That Sections 2 and 3 of Ordinance No. 175-2025 are amended as follows:

Section 2. That the LGBTQIA+ Commission shall consist of eleven thirteen members. Of initial appointments, six members shall be appointed for terms of two years, and the remaining five seven members shall be appointed for terms of one four years. Thereafter all members shall be appointed for terms of two four years. All members shall serve without compensation. Members may serve for no more than two consecutive two four-year terms, excluding members who were appointed for an initial one two-year term and excluding any partial term when a member is appointed to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term. After serving two full consecutive two four-year terms, members are eligible for reelection after a one-year absence from the Commission.

Section 3. The Mayor shall appoint members of the LGBTQIA+ Commission after receiving recommendations from the existing Commission and from the public at-large. The initial members of the Commission shall be recommended by the initial advisory group that proposed the creation of the Commission, with input from stakeholders that support LGBTQIA+ interests. Members shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to Council approval.

1. The LGBTQIA+ Commission shall consist of eleven thirteen voting members, that must satisfy the following specifications:

- a. One representative from Greater Cincinnati Human Rights Campaign (HRC);
- b. One representative from Cincinnati Pride;
- c. One representative from Caracole;
- d. One representative from Cincinnati Black Pride;
- e. One representative from TreeHouse Cincinnati, Inc.; and
- f. Six at large members.
- 2. These appointments shall endeavor to mirror a diversity of ethnicity, national origin, race, color, disability, gender, gender ideology sex, sexual orientation, age, and socioeconomic level. The Commission should include members who are broadly reflective of and sensitive to the needs of the LGBTQIA+ community's diverse population and residents of multiple Cincinnati neighborhoods.
- 3. Of the six at large thirteen members appointed to the Commission, at least three nine must be residents of the City.
- 4. The City Manager may appoint a City liaison who is knowledgeable about the procedures and methods of operations of the various City departments to serve as a non-voting member of the LGBTQIA+ Commission and to advise on how best to coordinate the Commission's efforts with the Administration.
- 5. The Commission shall be authorized to adopt rules and procedures to govern how it shall conduct its affairs, provided that the adopted rules and procedures may not conflict with state law or the municipal code. The rules and procedures shall be reviewed by the Commission in conjunction with the City Solicitor's Office from time to time.
- 6. If a position on the Commission is prematurely vacated, that position shall be filled at the earliest possible time through appointment of a person having qualifications for that vacated position and to complete the remainder of the succeeded member's term.
- 7. The Commission shall select its officers. However, the initial Chair of the Commission shall be appointed by the Mayor.
- 8. The Commission may recommend to the Mayor that a Commission member be removed for cause upon a majority vote of seated

members. Cause includes, but is not limited to, a member's absence at two consecutive meetings, or three combined absences from meetings in a one-year period.

Section 3. That all terms of Ordinance No. 175-2025 not amended in this ordinance remain in full force and effect.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.

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