



Augusta Commission Unanimously Passes Employment Non-discrimination Measure

Augusta, GA (June 19, 2018) — Today, in a unanimous vote of 8-0, the Augusta-Richmond County Commission voted to pass a resolution adding sexual orientation and gender identity to the list of discrimination protections for municipal employees. This vote expands Augusta's EEO Policy to broaden the sex discrimination definition to include acts of gender stereotyping and to prohibit discrimination based on gender, gender expression, gender identity, and sexual orientation.

"I would like to thank the board of Equality Augusta for all their time and effort in making today's vote possible, Georgia Equality and its Executive Director Jeff Graham for their support and guidance, Kellie Irving, the city's EEO Compliance Director, and Augusta Pride and our entire LGBTQ Augusta community for showing our neighbors every day that our equality is important to all of us. Today is an historic day for our city and this vote is a wonderful way to kick off Augusta Pride 2018," said **Matt Duncan**, President of Equality Augusta.

With today's vote Augusta joins Athens, Savannah, Atlanta, Macon, and a growing number of Georgia cities and municipalities that protect their employees from discrimination based on their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Georgia Equality's executive director **Jeff Graham** said "Georgia Equality is grateful to the Augusta-Richmond County Commission for extending non-discrimination protections to LGBTQ city employees. This sends a much needed message to that Augusta values and respects the diversity of their employees, vendors, customers, and communities. "

About Equality Augusta

Equality Augusta, Inc., is a political organization dedicated to advancing equal rights for the LGBTQ community in Augusta, GA, and the CSRA.

About Georgia Equality

Founded in 1995, Georgia Equality is the state's largest LGBTQ advocacy organization that works to advance fairness, safety, and opportunity for Georgia's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and allied communities.