

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION TO AFFIRM LITTLE ROCK AS A WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY FOR ALL RESIDENTS; AND, FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Little Rock respects the inherent dignity of the human person, and the right of all people, including immigrants, refugees, and LGBTQ persons, to be meaningful parts of a civic community; and

WHEREAS, we believe that members of our community should feel safe in their homes, schools, places of work, and public spaces and we will do everything in our power that is not in contravention of federal or state law, to make this a reality; and

WHEREAS, the City of Little Rock is not an arm of the federal government, and therefore does not have a duty to implement federal laws as would a federal agency; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the supremacy clause of the US Constitution, the City of Little Rock will not act in contradiction to any federal law; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court in *Printz v. United States*, 521 U. S. 898 (1997), further reinforced this principle by ruling that the federal government may not require state or local law enforcement officers to execute federal law, emphasizing the dual sovereignty structure of the 10th amendment of the U.S. Constitution that states, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

WHEREAS, promoting trust between immigrant, refugee, and LGBTQ communities and local government is essential for ensuring access to vital services, fostering cooperation with law enforcement, and creating a sense of belonging for all individuals to promote and improve public safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

Section 1. The Board of Directors of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, affirms that the City is committed to being a welcoming and inclusive city where all residents are entitled to live free from discrimination, harassment, and fear.

Section 2. The City of Little Rock will continue to promote policies and programs that embrace diversity, strengthen community bonds, and support the contributions of immigrant, refugee, and LGBTQ populations.

Section 3. The City of Little Rock upholds the principles of human dignity and equality by ensuring all residents can access city services and live without fear of discrimination or persecution.

Section 4. The City of Little Rock commits to ensuring all residents feel safe reporting crimes, accessing emergency services, and seeking city assistance.

Section 5. *Severability.* In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this resolution is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the resolution which shall remain in full force and effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part of the resolution.

Section 6. *Repealer.* All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution, including but not limited to Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. 21,031 (April 21, 2015), are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

ADOPTED: October 6, 2025

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Allison Segars, City Clerk

Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

SPONSOR

Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney

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