



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York State is the birthplace of the modern LGBTQ+ rights movement, ignited at the Stonewall Inn in New York City by a small but determined group of LGBTQ+ New Yorkers, during the early morning hours of June 28, 1969, which inspired millions around the world to seek fairness, justice, and equal rights for LGBTQ+ communities; we commemorate this watershed moment and the progress achieved in the 53 years since Stonewall, as our state continues its leadership in the pursuit of individual rights and freedoms with intentionality towards equity for the LGBTQ+ community especially at the intersections of marginalization; and

Whereas, this month, New York State is honored to unveil the newly renovated Marsha P. Johnson State Park, appropriately named for a proud transgender woman of color, who, alongside Sylvia Rivera and other brave activists, was a pioneer of the LGBTQ+ civil rights movement and a prominent figure in the Stonewall Uprising; as an outspoken champion of LGBTQ+ rights and one of the first activists to call for the prioritized development of medical treatments for persons with HIV/AIDS in its early years, Marsha P. Johnson turned her hardships and struggles with mental illness into action, and her legacy as a hero and example of courage continues to inspire us today; and

Whereas, this year marks the 20th anniversary of the passage of the Sexual Orientation Non-Discrimination Act (SONDA) in New York State, landmark legislation that prohibits discrimination on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation in employment, housing, public accommodations, education, credit, and civil rights, as set forth in the state's Human Rights Law, Civil Rights Law, and Education Law; and

Whereas, New York State respects and supports the rights of TGNCNB people to live their lives authentically, free from discrimination, harassment, and violence; measures such as the Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act, banning the gay and trans panic defense, enacting the Gender Neutral Bathroom law, repealing the Walking While Trans Ban, enacting and expanding the Gender Recognition Act, and enacting the START Act reaffirm our state's commitment to upholding the freedom of New Yorkers of all gender identities or expressions; and

Whereas, New Yorkers observe Pride Month with cultural and educational events marking major advancements in equal rights, freedom, and justice for LGBTQ+ communities such as: doubling critical funding for services, banning the fraudulent practice of conversion therapy, legalizing gestational surrogacy, removing other barriers to allow LGBTQ+ and TGNCNB people to build families, and protecting those who are victims of increased incidents of hate, bias, and violence – especially trans women of color; today New York State proudly remains a leader in fighting for full equality for LGBTQ+ and TGNCNB people, committed to fulfilling our vision for a more just and peaceful world for all;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim June 2022 as

LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-fifth day of May in the year two thousand twenty-two.

Kathy Hochul
Governor

[Signature]

Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh