



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York State values and respects every New Yorker and we proudly observe International Transgender Day of Visibility to reaffirm our commitment to see beyond the gender binary and create equity for New Yorkers of trans experience; and

Whereas, we recognize our state's rich history of transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary (TGNCNB) leaders who have worked tirelessly to protect and celebrate gender diversity; through their visibility, transgender leaders expand possibilities beyond the binary for all New Yorkers; and

Whereas, as a renowned voice of advocacy for the TGNCNB community, New York State recognizes we have the ability and responsibility to elevate and make more visible the gender diversity of all New Yorkers, and we take the opportunity on International Transgender Day of Visibility to honor leaders who tirelessly champion transgender freedom and liberation – leaders like Lorena Borjas, who tirelessly gave of herself to support the transgender community in New York, by offering her time, making herself available at any hour to connect those in need of legal assistance, opening up her home, which she converted into a clinic to safely provide HIV testing, and generously giving her heart, acting as a mother to so many in the community; and

Whereas, through the creation of the Lorena Borjas Transgender and Nonbinary Wellness and Equity Fund, New York State honors Ms. Borjas's incredible legacy and with our expansion of the fund, we continue to increase TGNCNB visibility; this important resource supports critical, life-saving services, and our continued efforts to grow and sustain it reaffirm our commitment to ensuring that every TGNCNB New Yorker is seen and allowed to thrive; and

Whereas, we will always stand up for the rights, visibility, and safety of New Yorkers and our state has taken steps to further strengthen measures to protect the TGNCNB community with the enactment of legislation that makes New York a "safe haven" for all TGNCNB individuals and protecting access to vital gender affirming care and medical care; and

Whereas, we also understand the importance of all New Yorkers to see themselves reflected in state policies and programs that impact our residents and have enacted laws requiring certain state agencies, boards, and commissions to collect data on sexual orientation and gender identity in demographic reports, so as to make TGNCNB New Yorkers visible, to eliminate disparities impacting them, and to provide services tailored to their needs; and

Whereas, the International Transgender Day of Visibility is a celebration of gender diversity and authenticity that asks each of us to see past the gender binary; in doing so, New York State continues to set an example to our nation and the world, that we embrace all people and all communities as a state where transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming individuals are not just accepted, but seen and valued as vibrant, integral, and necessary to New York's distinction as a diverse society that recognizes, accepts, and supports the full range of gender expression;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim March 31, 2024 as

TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY

in the Empire State.



G i v e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twentieth day
of March in the year two thousand twenty-four.

Kathy Hochul
Governor

[Signature]
Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh