



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York State strongly defends every person's right to express their individuality and identity on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression as protected under both federal and New York State law and explicitly under the New York State constitution, and we proudly reaffirm our commitment to see beyond the gender binary and create equity for all New Yorkers of transgender experience; and

Whereas, New York State's transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary (TGNCNB) community has a deep-rooted history of organizing for equal rights and protections with leaders such as Miss Major Griffin-Gracy, an icon, veteran of the Stonewall Rebellion, and caretaker during the height of the HIV and AIDS epidemic, who dedicated over five decades to the fight for transgender liberation through mutual aid and tangible support to Black transgender women, incarcerated and formerly incarcerated TGNCNB individuals, and the community at large; and

Whereas, we recognize there are dangerous and discriminatory attempts by the federal government to dehumanize and target TGNCNB Americans, including banning transgender people from serving openly in the military, blocking access to medically peer reviewed and evidenced-based healthcare practices, attempting to erase transgender history, dismantling systems aiding TGNCNB asylum seekers and refugees fleeing persecution, and preventing access to accurate U.S. Passports, all of which require New York State to continue to stand as a beacon of hope, resistance, and equality; and

Whereas, New York State is committed to supporting organizations that serve the TGNCNB community through continued investments to the Lorena Borjas Transgender Wellness and Equity Fund, established in 2022 and named in honor of Lorena Borjas, a transgender rights activist from Queens who dedicated her life to supporting TGNCNB immigrants; and

Whereas, New York State will continue to act on important issues impacting TGNCNB individuals and fight against federal attacks through laws and initiatives that protect TGNCNB New Yorkers, including the recent strengthening of New York State's shield law to align gender-affirming care with existing reproductive health care protections; and

Whereas, International Transgender Day of Visibility celebrates gender diversity and authenticity, and New Yorkers take pride in our history of rebellion and hard-fought inclusiveness as a state where TGNCNB individuals are seen and valued as vibrant, integral, and necessary to the excellence that has always characterized New York State;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim March 31, 2026 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 thirty-first day
of March in the year two thousand twenty-six.

Kathy Hochul

Governor

Karen Persichilli Keogh

Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh