State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York State's greatest asset is its diversity of people and as the birthplace of the modern LGBTQ+ movement, we are honored to be a beacon of equality every day of the year—especially during the celebration of Pride Month observed throughout June; and

Whereas, during this month, we remember the events that took place at the Stonewall Inn in 1969 when a determined group of LGBTQ+ New Yorkers stood united in their outcry against discrimination, sparking a six-day-long uprising for LGBTQ+ civil rights now memorialized through annual Pride events across New York State; and

Whereas, the events at Stonewall resulted in a proliferation of activism among the LGBTQ+ community, and the formation of many organizations across New York State, including the Gay Liberation Front, Radicalesbians, Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier, Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries, Lesbian Herstory Archives, Lavender Hill Commune, and the Pride Center of the Capital Region, which is the oldest, continuously operating LGBTQ+ community center in the country; and

Whereas, New York State unwaveringly respects and supports the rights of Transgender, Gender Non-Conforming, and Non-Binary (TGNCNB) people to live their lives authentically, highlighted by recent actions, such as expanding the Lorena Borjas Transgender and Non-Binary Wellness and Equity Fund to make it the largest fund of its kind in the entire country, and the signing of Shield Law 2.0 in 2025 to bolster protections for healthcare providers and patients receiving gender-affirming care; and

Whereas, each year during Pride Month we celebrate the LGBTQ+ and TGNCNB communities to demonstrate our continued commitment to protecting LGBTQ+ and TGNCNB rights, uplift the tireless work of past and present advocates, and recognize the importance of preserving our state's rich LGBTQ+ history, especially in the face of the federal government's efforts to erase the powerful history enshrined at the Stonewall National Monument, including the failed attempt to remove the Pride flag at the site; and

Whereas, New York State honors the work and legacy of visionary leaders who dedicated their lives to protecting and advancing LGBTQ+ and TGNCNB rights, including the late Kiara St. James, who founded the New York Transgender Advocacy Group, helped lead the charge to pass New York State's Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act, and advanced PrEP access and HIV treatments for Black and Brown TGNCNB New Yorkers; and

Whereas, as a steadfast champion of LGBTQ+ and TGNCNB rights, New York State remains a haven for the ensured safety, respect, and dignity of the LGBTQ+ and TGNCNB communities and we will continue to fight for and foster environments that allow individuals to freely display all aspects of their identities and combat attacks on their rights born out of prejudice and ignorance; and

Whereas, our state will always be a leader in the fight for equality, respect, bodily autonomy, and freedom of identity for every person;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim June 2026, 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-seventh day of May in the year two thousand twenty-six.

Kathy Hochul

Governor

Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh