

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS,  
CALIFORNIA, EXPRESSING STRONG OPPOSITION TO RELIGIOUS  
FREEDOM LEGISLATION THAT DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONDONES  
DISCRIMINATION OF PROTECTED CLASSES OF PERSONS**

**The City Council of the City of Palm Springs, California finds:**

- A. It is the public policy of the City of Palm Springs that it is necessary to protect and safeguard the right and opportunity of all persons to be free from all forms of arbitrary discrimination.
- B. Under the laws of the City of Palm Springs, arbitrary discrimination is the treatment of or distinction against a person based on the group, class or category to which that person belongs rather than on individual merit and contrary to federal, state or local law. Arbitrary discrimination under the laws of Palm Springs includes discrimination because of race, religion, color, ancestry, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, medical condition, marital status, parental status, source of income, HIV status, gender identification, or any other arbitrary factor.
- C. On March 26, 2015, the State of Indiana adopted the Religious Freedom Restoration Act that many organizations, businesses, and individuals criticized as potentially granting private businesses the right to discriminate against individuals who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender.
- D. The Indiana law could allow businesses to discriminate and similar legislation in other states has made it difficult to protect victims of domestic violence, prosecute child abusers, and ensure public safety and equal access for all citizens.
- E. The Mayor of Palm Springs on April 1, 2015, issued a statement condemning Indiana's legislation as an affront to the residents of the Palm Springs, using religious liberty as a government excuse for discrimination.
- F. The City Council is committed to protect the rights of all citizens, regardless of race, religion, color, ancestry, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, medical condition, marital status, parental status, source of income, HIV status, gender identification, or any other arbitrary factor.
- G. On April 2, 2015, the Indiana State Legislature passed and the Governor of Indiana signed an amendment clarifying that Indiana's Religious Freedom Restoration Act did not authorize the denial of services, facilities, public accommodations, goods, employment, or housing to anyone on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, age, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or military service.

**The City Council of the City of Palm Springs resolves:**

1. The City Council expresses its opposition to Indiana’s Religious Freedom Restoration Act as originally passed and expresses its support for the amendment signed into law on April 2, 2015.
2. The City Council reaffirms its support for protecting religious liberties while protecting members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities from discrimination.
3. The City Council declares and reaffirms its strong opposition to any federal or state law that discriminates against an individual or group of individuals based on their race, religion, color, ancestry, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, medical condition, marital status, parental status, source of income, HIV status, gender identification, or any other arbitrary factor.
4. The City Council directs the City Clerk to send of a copy of this resolution to the Governor of Indiana, the Indiana State Legislature, and California legislative leaders as deemed appropriate.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED by the Palm Springs City Council this 15th day of April, 2015.

Stephen P. Pougnet, Mayor

ATTEST

Jay Thompson, City Clerk