

**Resolution expressing the sense of the Human Rights Commission relating to access to gender-affirming care**  
**CHARLOTTESVILLE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**  
**RESOLUTION #: HR25-1**

**WHEREAS**, President Donald J. Trump signed Executive Order 14187 on January 28, 2025, which directs federal agencies to withhold funding from institutions that provide gender-affirming care to individuals under the age of 19; and

**WHEREAS**, in consequence of Executive Order 14187, Virginia Attorney General Jason S. Miyares dispatched a memorandum dated January 30, 2025, to the University of Virginia and Virginia Commonwealth University directing their compliance with the Executive Order by requiring they cease gender-affirming care to individuals under the age of 19; and

**WHEREAS**, according to major medical organizations, including the American Medical Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics, gender-affirming care is safe, evidence-based, and essential to the mental and physical health of transgender youth and is lifesaving and necessary;

**WHEREAS**, restricting access to medically necessary care on the basis of a person's gender identity violates protections afforded by the Virginia Human Rights Act, the Affordable Care Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act; and

**WHEREAS**, policies that curtail healthcare access based solely on protected status not only violate fundamental human and civil rights but also set a dangerous precedent for the treatment of patients; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 2-431, et. seq., of the Code of the City of Charlottesville provides, in general, protections from unlawful discrimination and more specifically in places of public accommodation, which has the same meaning as in the Virginia Human Rights Act; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the mission of the Human Rights Commission to act as a strong advocate for justice and equal opportunity by providing citywide leadership and guidance in the area of civil and human rights and act as an advisory body to City Council in matters pertaining to human and civil rights; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that it is the sense of the Commission that individuals accessing gender-affirming care have legal protections to do so and that federal agencies, political subdivisions of the Commonwealth, including publicly-operated health systems such as the University of Virginia Medical Center, and private entities that offer healthcare as a public accommodation have a legal obligation to not discriminate on the basis of protected status, including gender identity; and,

**BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED** that the Director of the Human Rights Commission prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to City Council, the Rector & Visitors of the University of Virginia, and the University of Virginia Health System Board as an expression of the Commission's concern regarding equal access to healthcare.

Dated this 20th of February, 2025.

  
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Heather Roberson Gaston, Chair, Human Rights Commission