



July 22, 2025

DAYTON OFFICE

130 W. Second St.
Suite 700 E.
Dayton, OH 45402

PHONE

(937) 228-8104

TOLL-FREE

(800) 837-0814

FAX

(937) 535-4600

TTY

(888) 545-9497

www.ablelaw.org

Mayor Mims and Commissioners Fairchild, Joseph, Shaw, and Turner-Sloss:

I hope this email finds you doing well.

I write on behalf of the Dayton Q+ Safe Haven Community Collective to respectfully request that the Dayton City Commission introduce and adopt the attached Resolution. It is modeled after adopted resolutions throughout the state of Ohio and declares the City of Dayton a Safe Haven for LGBTQIA+ individuals.

Support for the proposed resolution cannot wait any longer. Within the last year, the criminalizing and dangerous rhetoric related to LGBTQIA+ people has intensified. Members of the Collective and supporters will attend the August 20, 2025 Commission meeting to advocate for it – or, ideally, to celebrate its adoption.

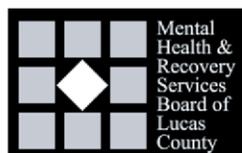
In November 2024 LGBTQIA+ individuals and allies organized around the question, “How can our community feel safe in the increasingly hostile political environment?” After months of research and discussion, the group determined that Dayton should align itself with Cities in Ohio and across the country that have defended LGBTQIA+ individuals by adopting a Resolution.

The Collective has since grown, and its supporters shaped the language you see in the Resolution. Daytonians and people in the region see Dayton as a place to find their chosen family, taking these connections to influence practices and policies throughout the region. As you will see in the attachments, hundreds, both individuals and those representing organizations across the City and region, have expressed support. In this moment of public threat and fear, Dayton needs to declare itself a safe space to work, play, and live for LGBTQIA+ people and their allies.

Some Collective advocates met with Mayor Mims on June 5, 2025 and shared the attached resolution, asking for City support. The Resolution can be introduced by two Dayton City Commissioners once it has been reviewed for “form and correctness” by the Dayton City Attorney. To the Collective’s knowledge, none of these steps have yet been taken. The next month gives the Commission time to take these steps. For convenience, I have attached an editable version of this document.

Additionally, thank you to those of you that attended the Dayton Pride Parade. Collective advocates saw many of you. It mattered that you showed your support. It is especially important to stand up in this moment when nearly 600 anti-LGBTQ+ bills are proposed in states across the country.

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Now and in the future, the Collective continues to

- raise public awareness about the Resolution;
- facilitate community discussions about Q+ inclusive efforts within Dayton;
- continue to receive letters of support for the Resolution;
- continue to gather signatures supporting this Resolution; and
- respond to the very real concerns and profound fears that citizens are expressing.

Your swift engagement and genuine embracing of this Resolution will send a significant message to the people of Dayton that only bolsters your human rights work.

Thank you for your kind consideration. Please have the City Attorney's office reach out if you have any questions at all, 7347091978. I would also be happy to facilitate a meeting between you and available Collective members.

My best,

Elizabeth Hudson

Attorney for Dayton Q+ Safe Haven Community Collective

Attached:

Safe Haven Resolution, community letters of support, and signed petitions

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By :

RESOLUTION NO.....

A RESOLUTION

A Resolution Proclaiming the City of Dayton a Safe Haven for Gender Affirming Health Care, Bathroom Access Based on Gender Identity, and Privacy for LGBTQ+ Youth and Adults Seeking Support Regarding Gender Identity, Expression, and Sexual Orientation, including Equal Protection and Freedom from Discrimination on the Basis of Sex, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression.

WHEREAS, the City of Dayton strives to celebrate diversity and promote equitable policies which make the City a welcoming and inclusive community for all, including people of all gender identities and expressions; and

WHEREAS, the Equal Protection Clause of the U.S. Constitution, Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, and Title IX Educational Amendments of 1972 guarantee the rights of people, including LGBTQ+ (hereafter, Q+) people, to live free from discrimination based in sex; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dayton recognizes that the Ohio Constitution, Article I, Section 2, secures equal protection and benefit from the government for all people, including Q+ people; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dayton acknowledges how discriminatory laws that aim to undermine the rights to privacy, safety, and equality of Q+ youth and adults creates crisis and trauma affecting wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dayton affirms its commitment to furthering transgender, non-binary, and gender-expansive equity and supporting its transgender, non-binary, and gender-expansive community; and

WHEREAS, people of all gender identities and expressions living in, working in, or visiting the City of Dayton are welcomed and valued by the Mayor and Commission who believe access to all healthcare, including mental healthcare, promotes individuals' well-being and should be protected; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to exercise the authority vested in the City of Dayton's Mayor and City Commission, including the coordinated and integrated direction, supervision, and control of all City departments, boards, commissions, and other agencies, to protect the safety and wellbeing of all residents; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DAYTON:

SECTION 1. The Mayor and this Commission proclaim the City of Dayton a safe city for all people and commit to including protections against discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, as guaranteed by the Ohio Constitution, Article I, Section 2 right to equality and the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

SECTION 2. The Mayor and this Commission reaffirm their condemnation of discriminatory laws as harmful to the mental health and well-being of Q+ youth and adults living in, working in, or visiting the City of Dayton.

SECTION 3. The Mayor and this Commission commit to protecting access to evidence-backed gender-affirming health care.

SECTION 4. The Mayor and this Commission hereby maintain that it should be the policy of the City of Dayton to not criminally prosecute or impose administrative penalties on any person or organization:

- (a) for providing, seeking, receiving, or assisting another person seeking or receiving gender-affirming health care;
- (b) for or allowing an individual to use the restroom based on gender identity;
- (c) that protects the privacy and confidence of a minor.

SECTION 5. The Mayor and this Commission hereby maintain that it should be the policy of the City of Dayton that no City resources, including, but not limited to, time spent by employees, officers, contractors, or subcontractors while on duty, or the use of City property, shall be utilized for enforcing – or cooperating with or assisting any individual, agency, department, or board to enforce – any law, rule, or regulation that imposes criminal punishment, civil liability, administrative penalties, or professional sanctions, on any person or organization:

- (a) for providing, seeking, receiving, or assisting another person seeking or receiving gender-affirming health care;
- (b) for or allowing an individual to use the restroom based on gender identity;
- (c) that protects the privacy and confidence of a minor.

SECTION 6. The Mayor and this Commission hereby maintain that it should be the policy of the City of Dayton that no City resources shall be utilized for enforcing, cooperating with or assisting any individual, agency, department, or board to stop, arrest, detain, or transfer any person to out-of-state custody, based on a violation of any law, rule, or regulation of another jurisdiction that imposes criminal punishment, civil liability, administrative penalties, or professional sanctions on any person or organization:

- (a) for providing, seeking, receiving, or assisting another person seeking or receiving gender-affirming health care;
- (b) for or allowing an individual to use the restroom based on gender identity;
- (c) that protects the privacy and confidence of a minor.

SECTION 7. The Mayor and this Commission hereby maintain that it should be the policy of the City of Dayton that no City resources shall be utilized for cooperating with or providing information to any individual, agency, department, or board of another jurisdiction related to that jurisdiction's laws, rules, or regulations imposing criminal punishment, civil liability, administrative penalties, or professional sanctions, on any person or organization

- (a) for providing, seeking, receiving, or assisting another person seeking or receiving gender-affirming health care;
- (b) for or allowing an individual to use the restroom based on gender identity;
- (c) that protects the privacy and confidence of a minor.

SECTION 8. The City of Dayton encourages businesses and other institutions within the City to review, update, and adopt policies and practices that promote safety, privacy and protections from current and future legislation discriminating against sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.

SECTION 9. The City of Dayton commits to reviewing and updating its policies as to promote safety and privacy of LGBTQ+ individuals; it further commits to reviewing and updating policies to prevent discriminating against people based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression resulting from current and future legislation

SECTION 10. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time permitted by law.

Adopted by the Commission 2025

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Mayor of the City of Dayton, Ohio

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Commission

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney