



[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

99th SESSION
2023-2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

RECOGNITION OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, INTERSEX, ASEXUAL + (LGBTQIA+) PRIDE MONTH

IN THE SENATE OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
OF BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

MAY 26, 2023

SUBMITTED BY SENATOR LINARES: CO-SPONSORED BY DIRECTOR ISABEL SALDIVAR, & VICE PRESIDENT AMANDA ANGUIANO TO THE SENATE

WHEREAS, Bakersfield College insists that diversity be valued and promoted, recognizing that multiple perspectives lead to a better education and knowledge of the world, as stated in its Core Values section of the Mission, Vision & Values of Bakersfield College;

WHEREAS, listening to and witnessing different experiences helps us to understand and contextualize power and privilege related to gender, race, class, religion, disability, and sexuality in terms of access and barriers to resources and opportunities;

WHEREAS, Bakersfield College has a diverse community, puts emphasis on values such as inclusivity, equity, and accessibility, and provides educational opportunities for students of all backgrounds and beliefs,

WHEREAS, Bakersfield College Student Government Association recognizes our community's diversity as one of our greatest strengths and promotes inclusion as a key priority by celebrating diversity in people, philosophies, cultures, beliefs, and backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, Bakersfield College Student Government Association recognizes that Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, and more (LGBTQIA+) people come from all walks of life, including race, ethnicity, religion, ancestry, national origin, economic status, physical or mental ability, medical condition, sex, or gender identity or expression; and

WHEREAS, a growing body of research indicates LGBTQIA+ people of color are adversely affected by cumulative discrimination and social exclusion, including racism from the LGBTQIA+ community, and homophobia and heterosexism within their racial/ethnic community (Cyrus, K., 2017; Sutter, M., & Perrin, P. B., 2016; Whitfield, D. L., Jourian, T. J., & Claybren, K. T.,



2020); and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the Association of American Universities (AAU) sampled more than 180,000 undergraduate and graduate students, nearly 17% identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual, asexual, queer, or questioning (LGBTQ+ Students in Higher Education Factsheet); and

WHEREAS, the struggle for dignity and equality for LGBTQIA+ people is mirrored in the determined dedication of advocates and allies who strive to create a more inclusive society and kinder community; and explicit state (e.g., ARTICLE 3.5. Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Equity in Higher Education [66271.2 - 66271.3]) and federal (e.g., Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and The Equality Act. The Supreme Court decision in *Bostock v. Clayton County* case in June 2020) Statutory protections currently address discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, and disability, but not sexual orientation or gender identity; and

WHEREAS, President Bill Clinton, on June 2, 2000, declared June “Gay & Lesbian Pride Month” to commemorate the June 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Lower Manhattan, and on June 1, 2009, President Barack Obama expanded the commemoration by declaring June to be “Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month”; and

WHEREAS, it has been more than 50 years since the Stonewall Uprising broke out following a police raid on the Stonewall Inn, targeting LGBTQIA+ patrons and other marginalized people, in violation of their civil rights, leading to the birth of the Gay Rights Movement; and LGBTQIA+ Americans, including those who live in our local communities, continue to face marginalization, discrimination, and hatred simply for being who they are and for whom they love; and

WHEREAS, the landmark Supreme Court decision of 2015 guaranteeing marriage equality in all 50 States was a historic victory for LGBTQIA+ Americans, and they continue to affirm the belief that we are all freer when we are treated as equals; and the rainbow flag, also known as the LGBTQIA+ Pride Flag, serves as a symbol of hope and inclusion to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Asexual, all other Queer people, and LGBTQIA+ social movement; and

WHEREAS, flying the rainbow flag throughout the month of June further symbolizes the celebration and affirmation of diversity, equity, and inclusion; and the colleges and centers of Bakersfield College Student Government Association are encouraged to support our LGBTQIA+ students, staff, and community by flying the rainbow flag; and June is a time to celebrate and affirm our LGBTQIA+ community, raise awareness of quality services, and foster dialogue to promote a healthy, safe, and prosperous college a community for all.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the BCSGA supports June 2023 as “LGBTQIA+ Pride Month” and encourages students, faculty, and staff to eliminate prejudice wherever it exists and to celebrate the LGBTQIA+ members of our community, and

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that BCSGA encourages Bakersfield College to raise a pride flag on June 28th in honor of Pride Month, which started with Stonewall, and this resolution be distributed to every BC Campus and Center with a flag pole;

AND FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED That this resolution shall be forwarded to Bakersfield College President Mr. Steve Walkins and the dean of Students to execute the resolution.

