Bill No. 2122-52

A Resolution to Recognize March 31 as International Transgender Day of Visibility; to Celebrate the Record and Historic Number of Transgender, Gender-Nonconforming, and Nonbinary Students Enrolled; and to Express Opposition to Any Efforts or Legislation to Restrict the Rights and Equal Protection of LGBTQ+ Individuals

Author(s): Nicholas Smith, Vice President

Sponsor(s): Nicholas Smith, Vice President; Theodore "Ted" Summers, Secretary-Historian; Nichole Smith, Treasurer; Meg Sparrow, At-Large Representative; Casey Smith, At-Large Representative; Jazsmine Peterson, At-Large Representative

Background:

The Washburn Student Bar Association (WSBA) received a request from Rainbow Bar, a registered student organization with WSBA, to publicly acknowledge the historic milestone of a record number of transgender, gender-nonconforming, and nonbinary law students currently enrolled at Washburn University School of Law to coincide with the International Transgender Day of Visibility on March 31. Similarly, Rainbow Bar requested that WSBA join Rainbow Bar's efforts to publicly express opposition to any efforts or legislation that limits the rights and equal protection of LGBTQ+ identifying persons. Unlike a bill or an act, a resolution is a statement of policy or formal statement expressing the Governing Body's opinions or attitudes.

Legislative Notes:

This resolution seeks to recognize March 31 as the International Transgender Day of Visibility; celebrate the record and the historic number of transgender, gender-nonconforming, and nonbinary students currently enrolled; and express opposition to any efforts or legislation by the State of Kansas to restrict the rights and equal protection of individuals on the basis of sex, gender identity, gender expression, or gender perception.

Presented to the Governing Body of the Washburn Student Bar Association on March 25, 2022, with a vote of:

Ayes: 14

Nays: Z

Abstentions:

Audriang Berry Dunn

WSBA President

Nicholas Smith

WSBA Vice President

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE WASHBURN STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION

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A RESOLUTION

Preamble.

REAFFIRMING the Washburn University School of Law's commitment to outreach and recruitment of underrepresented communities in the legal profession to cultivate a diversity of lived experiences, identities, and backgrounds, including the LGBTQ+ community;

OPPOSING, numerous bills in the Kansas legislature that would or seeks to limit, harm, or discriminate against the rights and equal protection of LGBTQ+ identifying persons;

WHEREAS, March 31 is annually recognized and celebrated globally as the International Transgender Day of Visibility, a day dedicated to commemorating the accomplishments of transgender, gender-nonconforming, and nonbinary individuals while raising awareness of achievements yet to come;

WHEREAS, Washburn University School of Law has recruited, admitted, and retained a historic and record number of transgender, gender-nonconforming, and nonbinary students currently enrolled;

CONSIDERING, Washburn Law's historic and record number of transgender, gender-nonconforming, and nonbinary students is impressive and worthy of distinguishment.

Section 1. The Washburn Student Bar Association shall hereby recognize March 31, 2022, as International Transgender Day of Visibility at Washburn University School of Law.

Section 2. The Washburn Student Bar Association hereby opposes any effort or legislation put forth by any legislator of the State of Kansas that restricts the rights and equal protection of any

person based on their sex, gender identity, gender expression, gender perception, or sexual orientation.

Section 3. The Washburn Student Bar Association celebrates and recognizes the historic milestone and record number of transgender, gender-nonconforming, and nonbinary students currently enrolled at Washburn University School of Law.

Section 4. This Act shall become effective immediately upon passage.