



COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Human Rights Commission

Recommendation Number 20201002-002f: Recommendation for City Council to Pass Sexual
Assault Survivors' Bill of Rights

WHEREAS, Survivors of Sexual Assault and Harassment are entitled to the same legal protections under the law according to Article 6 of The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and,

WHEREAS, The violation of bodily autonomy is a violation of one's human rights according to the "security of person" clause of Article 3 of The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and,

WHEREAS, The backlog in rape kits has been an ongoing issue, in the entire country, but also Austin; and,

WHEREAS, Sexual violence is an underreported, yet, severely consequential public health epidemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Human Rights Commission for The City of Austin recommends the City Council pass an ordinance enshrining the following Sexual Assault Survivors' Bill of Rights: 1) Right to Equality under the law 2) Right to informative rape kit procedures and notifications 3) The right to expedient processing of rape kits and associated materials 4) Right to Survivors' Advocacy 5) Right to terminate all legal ties with the assailant 6) Right to the retention of all rights regardless of whether assault is reported to law enforcement

Date of Approval: October 2, 2020

Record of the vote: 10-0; Chair Davis motion, Commissioner Weigel second. Voting in favor were Chair Davis, Vice Chair Jamarr Brown, Commissioner Breckenridge, Commissioner Garry Brown, Commissioner Caballero, Commissioner Casas, Commissioner Museitif, Commissioner Santana, Commissioner Weigel, and Commissioner White. Commissioner Griffith was absent.

Attest: _____

Jonathan Babiak

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Staff Liaison, Human Rights Commission