



COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Human Rights Commission

Recommendation Number 20210927-003a: Intersex Rights and Healthcare

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has officially recognized Intersex Awareness Day since 2019 to raise visibility for a marginalized and often forgotten group that comprises at least 2% of the population; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Adler made a proclamation that year to do better by intersex Austinites alongside Council Members Casar, Ellis, Renteria, Harper-Madison and then-Council Member Flannigan; and

WHEREAS, that proclamation included the following:

“Whereas | The City of Austin recognizes that intersex persons face violence, discrimination, stigma, harassment, and persecution on account of their sex characteristics, which do not fit binary notions of typical male or female bodies; and,

“Whereas | We bear witness to this violation of basic human rights, and will strive to do better as a city—celebrating the diversity of all Austin residents, including intersex individuals, moving forward”;

and,

WHEREAS, the New York State legislature passed a resolution in 2021 (Assembly Resolution No. 432) formally condemning non-consensual and medically unnecessary surgeries performed on intersex children as violate their reproductive rights, gender identity and expression and body autonomy; and

WHEREAS, this resolution abides by the recommendations of the World Health Organization, the United Nations, the American Medical Association Board of Trustees’ 2016 report, three former US Surgeons General and manifold additional medical and human rights experts and multinational organizations; and

WHEREAS, the State of Texas leadership has shown blatant disregard and/or ignorance for science and human rights in 2021, especially in the areas of reproductive rights, gender identity and expression and body autonomy; and

