



***CITY OF EASTHAMPTON***  
**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

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***RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF “YES” ON BALLOT QUESTION 3***  
***Councilors Owen Zaret, Margaret Conniff, Thomas Peake and Dan Carey***

**WHEREAS:** On November 6, 2018 voters in the City of Easthampton and throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will vote on Question 3, which will determine the status of the Massachusetts anti-discrimination public accommodations law passed by the State Legislature and signed by the Governor in 2016; and

**WHEREAS:** Massachusetts leads the way on equality for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Bay Staters; and

**WHEREAS:** The Pioneer Valley is recognized nationally for setting the example for LGBTQ equality

**WHEREAS:** The 2016 public accommodations protections were another step toward equality for all under the law, banning discrimination against transgender people in schools, parks, restaurants, libraries, hotels and all other accommodations; and

**WHEREAS:** The right to use the locker room, restroom and other facilities that affirm one’s gender identity is an essential right unnoticed by most, but which is a part of full citizenship for members of our community who are transgender and non-binary; and

**WHEREAS:** The public accommodations protections are supported by supermajorities of the State Legislature, police chiefs statewide, Women’s Bar Association of Massachusetts, AFL-CIO, Massachusetts Teachers Association, and others; and

**WHEREAS: 18 states, Washington DC and more than 200 cities and towns have passed laws protecting transgender people in public spaces.**

**WHEREAS:** In all states and cities and towns with laws protecting transgender people from discrimination, no problems with abuse or safety have occurred.

**WHEREAS:** The Easthampton City Council has set prior precedent through resolution to not condone or tolerate any form of discrimination on the basis of gender identity.;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Members of the Easthampton City Council declare their support for a YES vote on Question 3 to retain the ban on discrimination in public accommodations and affirm the Council’s support for the equal rights of transgender people in our community.

***Unanimously approved by the Easthampton City Council***  
***on October 3, 2018.***