

Multnomah County Democratic Central Committee
Resolution: 2018-4 Regarding Religiously-based Discrimination
against LGBTQ+ Community.

WHEREAS, the history of our nation, beginning with the Puritans, includes the weaponization of religion to discriminate, persecute, prosecute, deport, deny entrance, enslave others, or wreak physical violence and death; and,

WHEREAS, freedom of religion is being used to license discrimination, persecution, and prosecution against members of the LGBTQ community in the form of proposed legislation such as bathroom bills, First Amendment Defense Acts, or Religious Freedom Restoration Acts;

WHEREAS, lobbying by evangelical political organizations (i.e. The Heritage Foundation) and Donald Trump's Evangelical Advisory Board have led to a ban of transgender persons from military service; and,

WHEREAS, freedom of religion is used by religious organizations, businesses, corporations, governors, and members of national and state legislatures to deny women access to contraception, family planning, and the right to choose, along with denying transgender persons access to the healthcare, counseling, and hormonal services provided by women's healthcare organizations (i.e. Planned Parenthood).

NOW, THEREFORE, THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY RESOLVES;

Section 1: Freedom of religion includes freedom from religion and one person's freedom of religion ends where that of another begins.

Section 2: No person, church, religion, political organization, business, or corporate entity has a Constitutional or "God-given" right to abrogate the rights of others, or to impress their religious beliefs upon any other person;

Section 3: The right of all persons to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness can neither be denied nor legislated away.

Section 4: Legislation shall be enacted to protect and preserve the rights of all inhabitants and visitors to our state and nation from religiously based

discrimination, regardless of race, creed, national origin, ethnicity, immigration status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or binary and non-binary genders

Resolution submitted by Michelle Risher, Carla KC Hansen, Faith E Ruffing, Jil Heimensen, Lurelle Robbins, PRLC Equality Study Group

Michelle Risher and Chris Wiig, on behalf of the DPO Stonewall Caucus and the Democratic Party of Lane County

ADOPTED by the Democratic Party of Multnomah County on 10th day of May, 2018

Send to DPO Chair, DPO Platform Chair, Legislators