

ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Proclamation

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LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER+ PRIDE MONTH

WHEREAS, the June 1969 riots at the Stonewall Inn in New York City precipitated the modern fight for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer, Intersex, and Asexual (LGBTQIA+) rights; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 1999, President Clinton issued a proclamation designating June as Gay and Lesbian Pride Month, and in June 2009, President Obama expanded it to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month; and

WHEREAS, all people should be treated with respect and dignity and should be able to live without fear no matter who they are or whom they love, and each June LGBTQIA+ persons and allies, or the Rainbow Community members, come together to recommit to achieving equality; and

WHEREAS, issues important to the Rainbow Community can benefit all humans, such as the Arlington County internal design and construction standards for including single-occupancy restrooms that allow privacy and dignity to persons of all gender identities and anyone with a caregiver; and

WHEREAS, the Rainbow Community contributes immensely to our society in areas of science, education, religion, government, and sports; and

WHEREAS, Arlington County Rainbow Community Employees make important and lasting contributions to Arlington County; and


WHEREAS, a group of Arlington County employees established *OUTstanding*, an Employee Resource Group (ERG) for the Rainbow Community to promote a work environment where diversity and inclusion are valued and where everyone can be their authentic selves in the workplace; and

WHEREAS, Arlington County has a long-standing commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and commends *OUTstanding* for their dedication to promoting equity, inclusion, diversity, and fairness and justice for all employees regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Matt De Ferranti, Chair of the County Board of Arlington, Virginia, do hereby proclaim **June 2021**, as

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER+ PRIDE MONTH

and call this observance to the attention of all Arlington County employees to celebrate the contributions of the LGBTQIA+ employees and applaud LGBTQIA+ Pride.



Matt de Ferranti
Chair