

Sections of the 9-6-01 draft

SUBSTITUTE
ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago seeks to protect its citizens in the enjoyment of civil rights and to promote mutual understanding and respect among all who live and work within the City; and

WHEREAS, discrimination, prejudice, intolerance and bigotry directly and profoundly threaten the rights and freedom of Chicagoans; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago has passed ordinances to protect the civil rights of those who live and work within the City, including the prohibition of discrimination based on sex; and

WHEREAS, despite these protections, there are still citizens who are denied their civil rights because their gender identity, appearance or behavior differs from that traditionally associated with their sex at birth; and

WHEREAS, gender-based discrimination often leads to loss of employment, housing and refusal of services in public accommodations; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

SECTION 1. Chapter 2-74-080 of the Municipal Code of Chicago is hereby amended by adding the language underscored as follows:

2-74-080 Discrimination--Unlawful activities.

No person shall discriminate against any employee or applicant because of race, color, sex, gender identity, age, religion, disability, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, military discharge status or source of income, as defined in Chapter 2-160 of this code.

SECTION 3. Chapter 2-160 of the Municipal Code of Chicago is hereby amended by deleting the language in brackets and adding the language underscored as follows:

2-160-010 Declaration of city policy.

It is the policy of the City of Chicago to assure that all persons within its jurisdiction shall have equal access to public services and shall be protected in the enjoyment of civil rights, and to promote mutual understanding and respect among all who live and work within this city.

The city council of the City of Chicago hereby declares and affirms:

That prejudice, intolerance, bigotry and discrimination occasioned thereby threaten the rights and proper privileges of the city's inhabitants and menace the institutions and foundation of a free and democratic society; and

That behavior which denies equal treatment to any individual because of his or her race, color, sex, gender identity, age, religion, disability, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, military discharge status, or source of income undermines civil order and deprives persons of the benefits of a free and open society.

Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed as supporting or advocating any particular lifestyle or religious view. To the contrary, it is the intention of this ordinance that all persons be treated fairly and equally and it is the express intent of this ordinance to guarantee to all of our citizens fair and equal treatment under law.

2-160-020 Definitions.

(f) “Gender identity” means the actual or perceived appearance, expression, identity, or behavior, of a person as being male or female, whether or not that appearance, expression, identity or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person’s designated sex at birth.