



PROCLAMATION

Declaring the City of Arcata
**A SANCTUARY CITY FOR TWO-SPIRIT, TRANSGENDER,
GENDER NONCONFORMING, AND INTERSEX PEOPLE**
August 2025

WHEREAS, gender diverse people, such as Two-Spirit, Transgender, Gender non-conforming and Intersex (2S/TGI), have existed throughout history and cultures, including in the local Humboldt area where the Wiyot Tribe uses the term of “gou’mel” which means “both together”; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arcata acknowledges and values its 2S/TGI residents, staff, and visitors who contribute to a vibrant community and deserve dignity and respect; and

WHEREAS, over 1,970 anti-LGBTQ+ bills have been introduced nationally between 2023 and 2025, disproportionately targeting 2S/TGI individuals and aiming to restrict their healthcare, participation, recognition, and rights; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arcata reaffirms its commitment to supporting 2S/TGI individuals by upholding access to gender-affirming care, recognizing the improved mental health and well-being such care provides; and

WHEREAS, healthcare professionals and individuals seeking or assisting with lawful gender-affirming care in Arcata should be shielded from criminal, civil, or professional penalties; and

WHEREAS, surveys show local 2S/TGI youth face mental health challenges, feel unsafe at school, and fear housing loss due to anti-queer bias and legislation; and the Human Rights Watch has found that bans on gender-affirming care violate fundamental human rights; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arcata will not tolerate hate, discrimination, and harassment toward 2S/TGI individuals and reaffirms the inherent worth and dignity of all community members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Arcata recognizes gender-affirming healthcare as a matter of health, privacy, and equality, and will protect access to such care for all residents, to the fullest extent permitted by the law; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no City resources-including staff time or property- shall be used to detain, investigate, or penalize anyone seeking, providing, or supporting gender-affirming care; and the City of Arcata shall not cooperate with or provide information to out-of-state entities regarding lawful gender-affirming healthcare or mental health care performed in California; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Arcata will promptly investigate threats, violence, discrimination, or hate crimes targeting 2S/TGI individuals and work to ensure equitable access to healthcare, housing, education, and employment; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Arcata hereby reiterates its commitment to civil rights and equal protections and declares itself a sanctuary city and place of safety for 2S/TGI people.

Dated: August 6, 2025

Alexandra Stillman
Mayor