RESOLUTION CONCERNING NON-DISCRIMINATION IN THE TOWN OF WEAVERVILLE

WHEREAS, consistent with the values established by Town Council in the Title VI Non-Discrimination Policy and Implementation Plan adopted on April 27, 2020, the Mayor and Town Council affirm that every person deserves to be treated with dignity and respect and should be able to live and work in the Town of Weaverville without fear of discrimination of any kind; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ people in North Carolina are vulnerable to discrimination in many areas of life, including education, housing, healthcare, public spaces, and the workplace, because of a lack of statewide non-discrimination protections; and

WHEREAS, while federal and statewide protections currently exist, in the last year there has been an increase in hate crimes against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders based on their national origin or ancestry, there continues to be wage gaps on the basis of gender, race, and ethnicity, and many people of color continue to face systemic racism, especially in the area of legal justice and law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, Weaverville residents strongly support protecting all people from the indignity of discrimination; and

WHEREAS, non-discrimination laws, policies, and practices, including those that are LGBTQ-inclusive, send a message that everyone is welcome to build a life, raise a family, or start a business within the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Weaverville Town Government will not discriminate against any human being in its employment practices or in its provision of services, operations, or programs on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, race, ethnicity, creed, color, sex, national origin, national ancestry, marital status, familial status, pregnancy, veteran or military status, religion, religious beliefs or non-beliefs, age, disability, or income level; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Weaverville welcomes companies, corporations, small businesses, and sole proprietors who adopt non-discrimination policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, discrimination will not be tolerated in areas of public accommodations which include places such as hotels, motels, inns, restaurants, retail stores or establishments, galleries, or other similar establishments, which supply goods, services, or accommodations to the public or which solicit or accept the patronage or trade of any person;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Weaverville calls on all of its citizens to treat all persons with respect and dignity, and calls upon all businesses in the Town to adopt non-discrimination policies, procedures, and practices in order to reflect the community's shared values of equality, inclusion, and fair access, and to protect against discrimination within the Town of Weaverville.

ADOPTED THIS the 26th day of April, 2021, by a vote of 4 in favor and 0 against.

ALLAN P. ROOT, Mayor

ATTESTED BY

JAMES ELLER, Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JENNIFER O. JACKSON, Town Attorney