

NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS
GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION BILL S-362/A-930

RESOLUTION NO. 11-2006-3
(November 9, 2006)

WHEREAS, by an Act of the Legislature of the State of New Jersey the New Jersey Commission on Civil Rights was created; and

WHEREAS, the Commission on Civil Rights is charged under the law with consulting with and advising the Attorney General with respect to the work of the Division on Civil Rights, surveying and studying the operations of the Division, and reporting to the Governor and the Legislature with respect to such matters relating to the work of the Division and at such times as it may deem in the public interest; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature is considering legislation (S-362 and A-930) which seeks to amend the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination by codifying as an additional protected category "gender identity or expression"; and

WHEREAS, this amendment will protect people in New Jersey based on gender identity or expression in employment, housing, public accommodations and certain credit transactions; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature seeks to further declare its opposition to such practices of discrimination when directed against any person by reason of gender identity or expression, are matters of concern to the government of the State, and that such discrimination threatens not only the rights and proper privileges of the inhabitants of the State but menaces the institutions and foundation of a free democratic State; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature further declares its opposition to such practices of discrimination when directed against any person by reason of gender identity or expression, of that person or that person's spouse, partners, members, stockholders, directors, officers, managers, superintendents, agents, employees, business associates, suppliers, or customers, in order that the economic prosperity and general welfare of the inhabitants of the State may be protected and ensured; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature in New Jersey works tirelessly to protect all of New Jersey's citizens from discrimination, that would cause citizens to suffer personal hardships, and the State to suffer a grievous harm. The New Jersey Commission on Civil Rights;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this date, November 9, 2006 by the New Jersey Commission on Civil Rights that the Members of the Commission hereby support passage of S-362 and A-930 and urge enactment of such legislation as soon as possible so that the civil rights of more New Jerseyans are protected; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Division shall ensure that a copy of this Resolution is transmitted to the Legislative leadership, Attorney General, and the Governor.

Passed by the New Jersey Commission on Civil Rights on November 9, 2006.