

# Proclamation

- Whereas,** the month of October is dedicated to recognizing the important role of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer individuals in the social, legal, and political history of our nation, and to highlighting the extraordinary contributions of the LGBTQ+ community throughout our history; and
- Whereas,** during this month-long observance we commemorate two historically significant October dates: the first March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights on October 14, 1979, and the first National Coming Out Day on October 11, 1988. We also acknowledge another historically significant date, yesterday, October 2, 2023 when Gov. Gavin Newsom appointed Laphonza Butler, a Black lesbian, to complete the U.S. Senate seat held by the late Sen. Dianne Feinstein who died last week; and
- Whereas,** knowing and understanding LGBTQ+ history is essential for communities to understand the full fabric of humanity that comprises our society; and
- Whereas,** our continued advocacy for and acknowledgment of LGBTQ+ history is also critical to altering the tragic reality that LGBTQ+ youth are four times more likely to attempt suicide than straight youth; and
- Whereas,** LGBTQ+ History Month is a call to action for communities to stand united against prejudice, bigotry, intolerance, hate, and discrimination; and fight for equality, progress, civil rights, and human rights; and
- Whereas,** as President Joe Biden stated in 2023, “[we] honor . . . and [celebrate] generations of LGBTQI+ people, who have fought bravely to live openly and authentically. And it is a reminder that we still have generational work to do to ensure that everyone enjoys the full promise of equity, dignity, protection, and freedom.”

**Now, therefore, be it resolved,** that I, Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Mayor of the City of Alameda, do hereby proclaim October 2023 as

## LGBTQ+ History Month

in the City of Alameda and call on all residents to join me in recognizing the historic and continuing contributions of the LGBTQ+ community, and to celebrate with me at Alameda Pride, October 13-15, 2023.



Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft  
Mayor

