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Assembly California Legislature



EVAN LOW
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, TWENTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
CHAIR: BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS
COMMUNICATIONS AND CONVEYANCE
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CHAIR: LEGISLATIVE LGBT CAUCUS
CO-CHAIR: CALIFORNIA TECHNOLOGY
AND INNOVATION CAUCUS

November 27, 2018

San José City Council
200 East Santa Clara Street
San José, CA 95113

Dear Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor Carrasco, and City Council:

Thank you for your engagement and advocacy on behalf of an issue that is deeply personal to me and so many of my constituents. California is home to the largest LGBTQ+ population in the nation; continuing to fight for inclusive policies and practices is among my top priorities as a State Legislator.

I am proud to offer my strong support for Item No. 3.4: "A Resolution Opposing Any Policy Change in Title IX That Rolls Back Civil Rights Protections for the Transgender Community" and Item No. 4.5 to allow the Housing Department to lease the Locust Street property for the purposes of establishing an LGBTQ-focused transitional housing facility.

As the Federal Administration attempts to roll back rights and protections, we must stand firmly against the erasure of our transgender community. We as public servants have a responsibility to rally behind the most marginalized in our community and enact policies that affirm equality. This year, the State Legislature apologized for our historical anti-LGBT laws. We resolved to take all steps necessary to be a fully inclusive state and to preserve the rights of all people. This resolution is one such step in the right direction.

The LGBTQ community experiencing homelessness faces unique challenges, including risk of violence and discrimination. Nearly 30 percent of the homeless population in Santa Clara County identifies as LGBTQ+ and LGBT youth face even greater risk of experiencing homelessness. It is imperative that the Silicon Valley LGBT community affected by homelessness has a shelter where they can truly feel safe and supported while they search for a permanent home.

As the Chair of California's Legislative LGBT Caucus, I am proud to support the City of San José's efforts to advocate for the LGBT community and establish a LGBT+ shelter. These efforts reaffirm that our community stands for inclusion, equality, and opportunity for all. I encourage the Council to approve these items.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Evan Low", with a stylized, flowing script.

Evan Low
Chair, Committee on Business and Professions
Assemblymember, 28th District – San José/Silicon Valley

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