From: Public Testimony
To: Rice, Howard
Subject: FW: Vote YES on Ordinance No. 200907.
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:08:31 PM

Erica Dobbs

Administrative Assistant
City Clerk's Office
City of Kansas City, Mo.
414 E. 12th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106
Email: erica.dobbs@kcmo.org
Phone: 816-513-6405
Fax: 816-513-3353

From: Bunch, Eric
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:05 PM
To: Public Testimony <Public.Testimony@kcmo.org>
Subject: Fw: Vote YES on Ordinance No. 200907.

From: Gloria Boehm <glokcmo816@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:02 PM
To: cc 1 <cc1@kcmo.org>
Subject: Vote YES on Ordinance No. 200907.

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Dear Council Members and Mayor,

The need for an independent LGBTQAI+ Commission for Kansas City is overdue. By no means does Kelly Kendall represent me as a queer white woman. I'm curious to know what the current Gay and Lesbian Task Force has done to prevent Black Trans women from being murdered in Kansas City? What role have they played in recommending LGBTQAI+ materials and curriculum for grades K-12 and their educators? Black youth, comprising around 30% of our city are turning out to be at higher risk for suicide than white kids in this country. Black youth and adult mental health is impacted even more so by being LGBTQAI+. Gender non-conforming and non-binary people are included here as well. Please also imagine being LGBTQAI+ within the KCPD and KCFD. How do you think those folx are being treated in those environments?

Another issue that I'm very concerned about is having protection for the rights of senior LGBTQAI+ community members in congregate housing facilities. Just because we're aging doesn't mean our

sexual identity disappears. Providing training and advocacy to communities that house these elders will ensure that they won't be traumatized or re-traumatized by homophobic rhetoric or treatment.

I know you have a lot to look over before tomorrow morning's meeting. Here is a link to one article that helps explain the letters in LGBTQAI+: https://nyti.ms/2MICXY5. The one thing it missed is the two-spirit identity translated from indigenous tribal language with a reference for this here: http://www.tribal-institute.org/2014/INCTwo-SpiritBooklet.pdf.

Wishing you an inclusive and open minded day,

Gloria S. Boehm
Kansas City, MO
District 4!