

**RESOLUTION****ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Janelle Crary  
INITIATED BY



6/8/2023  
DATE DRAFTED

**Designating June Pride Month in Rock County**

**WHEREAS**, LGBTQ+ Pride month is celebrated throughout the US, and in many countries around the world, each year in the month of June to commemorate the Stonewall uprising of June 1969; and,

**WHEREAS**, Rock County is committed to justice, equity, and freedom from discrimination for all people, regardless of age, gender, identity, race, ethnicity, marital status, national origin, sexual orientation, or physical abilities; and,

**WHEREAS**, Rock County values diversity, equity, and inclusion as core strength components among its workforce and clientele; and,

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin became the first state to enact a gay rights law prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations on the basis of sexual orientation, in 1982; and,

**WHEREAS**, surveys conducted by the CDC and Prevention and Gallup polling indicate that over 17% of the Wisconsin population identifies as LGBTQ+; and if state statistics hold true locally, more than 27,000 Rock County residents identify as LGBTQ+; and,

**WHEREAS**, the LGBTQ+ community continues to be the target of lingering social stigmas, often bearing the brunt of discrimination in the areas of education, employment, health care, housing, and numerous studies have shown that these inequities may result in poverty, homelessness, violence, mental health issues, and substance abuse concerns; and,

**WHEREAS**, LGBTQ+ youth are at increased risk of experiencing anxiety, depression, and bullying compared to their peers. Suicide is the second leading cause of death amongst young people ages 10-24 with LGBTQ+ youth over 4 times as likely to attempt suicide. Most young LGBTQ+ people cite lack of family and community support as the biggest contributor to their suicidal thoughts.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors assembled this 22nd day of June 2023, does hereby proclaim the month of June as Pride Month and encourages Rock County residents to learn about the contribution of LGBTQ+ people in Rock County and reflect on ways that we can live and work together with a commitment to mutual respect and understanding.

**Committee Action****County Board Staff Committee**

County Board Staff Committee recommended this resolution for approval by a vote of 7-1 in which Supervisors Bostwick, Brien, Beaver, Leavy, Wilson, Peer, and Podzilni voted "Aye" and Supervisor Towns voted "Nay."