

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Houston LGBTQ+ Political Caucus Statement on Proposed Protest Ban Ordinance

HOUSTON, TX – The membership of the Houston LGBTQ+ Political Caucus voted at its August meeting to oppose Mayor Whitmire’s proposed ordinance that would prohibit protests at the home of elected officials.

Since 1975, the Houston LGBTQ+ Political Caucus has used its voice to eliminate prejudice, violence, and injustice toward LGBTQ+ people through political action, activism, and—most commonly—through outward dissent. This proposed ordinance seeks to silence that same kind of dissent, peaceful objection, and community advocacy.

Our pride has always been rooted in the use of protest and community advocacy such as Stonewall and the work of Act Up. We must continue to admonish oppression and discrimination and protect our First Amendment right to freedom of speech and assembly, especially when those rights are under attack by our elected officials.

In solidarity, we urge Houston City Council to say NO to this ordinance that would silence the voices of democracy.

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The Houston LGBTQ+ Political Caucus is the South’s oldest, civil rights organization dedicated solely to the advancement of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender equality. Founded in 1975, it is the largest LGBTQ+ political organization in the city of Houston and Harris County.