



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 2886-2019, **Version:** 1

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This ordinance authorizes Columbus City Council to enter into a grant agreement with Stonewall Columbus in support of programming that advances social justice and the ability to achieve sustainable pathways out of poverty.

For 40 years, Stonewall Columbus has been at the center of the LGBTQ+ movement in central Ohio. As the first and only LGBTQ+ community center, Stonewall has led and/or partnered in advancements in LGBT rights, health, legal aid and legislative progress throughout the city, county and state.

Stonewall Columbus proposes the following programming that will actively support the City's vision of developing Pathways Out of Poverty:

- Connecting people who need support to programs and services that help them move from economic insecurity to economic security;
- Providing programming that specifically addresses the nuanced cultural needs of LGBTQ+ people;
- Making it easier for gay and transgender people to access necessary programs and training required for them to achieve success through the development of enhanced skills needed for successful employment;
- Aiding marginalized populations including queer and transgender people of color, disenfranchised young adults, women and the chronically underemployed, for whom financial insecurity is often a way of life;
- Serving LGBTQ+ people who have a disproportionately high likelihood of living at or below 200% of the federal poverty line due, in part, to a limited capacity (based on knowledge, skills, and access) to manage financial resources effectively;
- Supporting LGBT veterans who are at extremely high risk for destructive behaviors and even suicide as a result of years of being marginalized and "shamed," many of whom are under extreme financial burden without access to veteran's benefits and support programs;

**Fiscal Impact:** Funding is available within the Neighborhood Initiatives subfund.

**Emergency action** is requested in order to avoid any delay in providing Stonewall Columbus with the resources necessary to execute the aforementioned programs.

To authorize Columbus City Council to enter into a grant agreement with Stonewall Columbus in support of programming that advances social justice and the ability to achieve sustainable pathways out of poverty; to authorize an appropriation and expenditure within the Neighborhood Initiatives subfund; and to declare an emergency. (\$80,000.00)

**WHEREAS**, for 40 years, Stonewall Columbus has been at the center of the LGBTQ+ movement in central Ohio; and

**WHEREAS**, Stonewall has led and/or partnered in advancements in LGBT rights, health, legal aid and legislative progress throughout the city, county and state; and

**WHEREAS**, Stonewall Columbus will execute programming that will actively support the City's vision of developing Pathways Out of Poverty; and

**WHEREAS**, an emergency exists in the usual daily business of the city in that it is immediately necessary to enter into a grant agreement with Stonewall Columbus to avoid any delay in executing programs that will lead to greater social justice, equality, and upward socioeconomic mobility; **now, therefore,**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:**

**SECTION 1.** That Columbus City Council is hereby authorized to enter into a grant agreement with Stonewall Columbus in support of programming that advances social justice and the ability to achieve sustainable pathways out of poverty.

**SECTION 2.** That the City Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to appropriate \$80,000.00 in the Neighborhood Initiatives subfund, fund 1000, subfund 100018, to Columbus City Council per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

**SECTION 3.** That the expenditure of \$80,000.00 or so much thereof as may be needed pursuant to the action authorized in SECTION 1 of this ordinance, is hereby authorized in the Neighborhood Initiatives subfund, fund 1000, subfund 100018 per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

**SECTION 4.** That the City Auditor is authorized to make any accounting changes to revise the funding source for all contracts or contract modifications associated with this legislation.

**SECTION 5.** That for the reasons stated in the preamble hereto, which is hereby made a part hereof, this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor, or ten days after passage if the Mayor neither approves nor vetoes the same.