

**Public Comment #23**

County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

**BOS Rcvd. 6-20-2022****Public Comment Item 23 LGBTQIA+ Proclamation****Nicole Gotberg** <ngotberg@yahoo.com>

Sat, Jun 18, 2022 at 11:04 PM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Cc: The BOSONE &lt;bosone@edcgov.us&gt;, bostwo@edcgov.us, BOS Three &lt;bosthree@edcgov.us&gt;, BOS Four &lt;bosfour@edcgov.us&gt;, bosfive@edcgov.us

I wanted to write my support of the county adopting the LGBTQIA+ pride proclamation. As someone who identifies as queer it means a lot to me that the county recognize LGBTQIA+ pride month. I also greatly appreciate the county adopting the revised language of the proclamation suggested by our youth.

I remember when I told my friends and family I was moving to Placerville their first reaction was concern for my safety because I am openly queer. I certainly did not think when I moved here that it would be possible for someone like me to serve in public office, but I am now a Planning Commissioner who was unanimously appointed by the Placerville City Council. While I still have the occasional slur yelled at me walking down Main Street it's a rare occurrence these days, and our community has progressed from the days of the LGBTQ hate trucks. However, many of our youth in El Dorado County still struggle with their families when they come out, and there is still a higher percentage of homelessness and suicides among LGBTQIA+ youth than their straight peers.

I certainly hope you will all support this proclamation. I know some of our youth will be listening to this item. It is hard for me to believe that anyone's God is against honoring all efforts that provide opportunities for a life free from discrimination and prejudice and in support of equality and the pursuit of happiness

Thank You

Nicole Gotberg

Placerville Resident, District III



County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

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## Item 23-LGBTQIA+ Pride proclamation

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**Candice Otte** <beanguppy@gmail.com>  
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Mon, Jun 20, 2022 at 10:29 AM

To Whom It May Concern,

I have lived in El Dorado Country since 1997. I now, at 33, have my own family and am raising them in this beautiful place. I'm writing today in absolute support of EDC Pride Proclamation. I believe it's about time that we as a county recognize Pride month and work towards more inclusive activities and visibility for members of the LGBTQIA+ community. I own home a home here, ran a small business here, and am currently continuing my education to become a therapist to work and serve here. I am also a member of the LGBTQ community, as well as my spouse and children. I believe a catchy slogan for our county has always been "El Dorado Country is too great for hate" and I would like to see tangible evidence of that. I would like for the local Queer Youth Group to have a meeting place big enough for all the kids and families and for our visibility to not feel quite so foreign. I am at home here and plan to live out my life looking off my deck into the woods, listening to the birds sing, and smelling this wonderful mountain air. I also plan to be very visible and unafraid of my neighbors. Having our county officially mark and celebrate Pride month will only add to the acceptance and connection we should all have with one another. This county takes care of each other through horrible wildfires, water consumption, and supporting businesses through the pandemic. I would feel proud of my hometown and more welcomed and accepted with this proclamation. I believe it would lead to more education and willingness to see our neighbors for more than their orientation or gender, and that we are all of the human race and deserve to feel safe and included. Our county is growing, and I would like to see the growth include many races, orientations, beliefs, and backgrounds. Showing support will only add to the possibilities of more inclusion and care for everyone in our community, and those who have yet to come. I would like to put that bumper sticker on my car and know that it speaks truth and that we are indeed a county "too great for hate".

I appreciate your time in reading this email. Thank you!

-Candice Otte