

Proposed MASC Resolution Regarding Sanctuary Laws for Trans Students

WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has a long history of standing for civil rights, including advocacy for a bill of rights in the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Massachusetts codified gender identity as a protected class in the 2011 Act Relative to Gender Identity; and

WHEREAS, All children deserve a safe environment in which to grow up; and

WHEREAS, Some state governments are now criminalizing supportive medical care for trans individuals; moving to bar families from traveling to access such care; and otherwise violating the civil rights of trans children and their families; and

WHEREAS, The defense of the civil rights of the historically marginalized is contained within the first article of the Massachusetts Constitution right of “seeking and obtaining their safety and happiness,”

THEREFORE; be it

RESOLVED, That the Massachusetts Association of School Committees call on the Great and General Court to join with other states in the passage of so-called “sanctuary” laws to ensure such children and their families have “the power of enjoying, in safety and tranquility, their natural rights and the blessings of life,” as guaranteed by the Constitution of the Commonwealth.

Voted: Unanimously

Date: May 23, 2022

By: Somerville School Committee