

Yes on 3 Resolution

- Whereas:** The Massachusetts House of Representatives and Senate approved the addition of gender identity to the Massachusetts Public Accommodations Law (M.G.L. c. 272, §§ 92A, 98 and 98A) on July 8, 2016; and
- Whereas:** Governor Charlie Baker signed this legislation, An Act Relative to Transgender Anti-Discrimination, into law on July 8, 2016; and
- Whereas:** The updated Massachusetts Public Accommodations Law has been in full effect since October 1, 2016; and
- Whereas:** The Somerville School Committee has long demonstrated leadership on the issue of transgender equality, having passed a first-of-its-kind policy supporting transgender staff, and having passed JBD, a policy on student gender identity and support, adopted in January, 2018; and
- Whereas:** The Massachusetts statewide election upcoming on November 6, 2018 includes a ballot question seeking to repeal the provision in the Massachusetts Public Accommodations Law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of gender identity in places of public accommodation; and
- Whereas:** Repeal of those provisions of the Massachusetts Public Accommodations Law would be contrary to the values and principles that the City of Somerville has long espoused and that we are sworn to uphold; and therefore be it
- Resolved:** That the Somerville School Committee does hereby reaffirm our commitment to equal protection under the laws for all people; and therefore be it
- Further Resolved:** That this Board opposes any effort to infringe on the rights of transgender and gender non-conforming members of our community.

Voted: Unanimously

Date: September 24, 2018

By the Somerville School Committee