



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**PROCLAMATION**

***LGBTQ History Month  
October 2018***

***WHEREAS, every Commonwealth citizen should be entitled to live in this society with equal rights and protections regardless of who they are and/or whom they love; and***

***WHEREAS, every Commonwealth citizen has the right to have their voice heard when speaking out for equality and non-discrimination; and***

***WHEREAS, it is critical to fight for dignity, equity and inclusion for all individuals in our communities, places of work and schools across the commonwealth; and***

***WHEREAS, activism needs to be strengthened to improve policy and increase recognition; and***

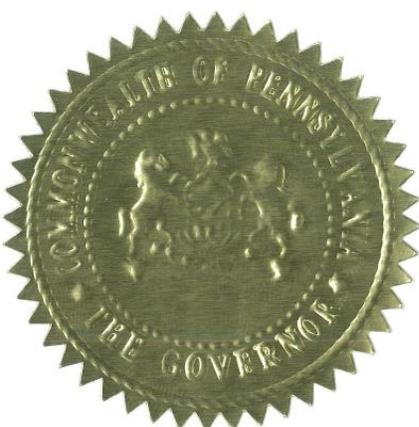
***WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the tireless efforts of advocates and allies for LGBTQ rights and the movement's important history and milestones; and***

***WHEREAS, education leads to understanding, which leads to appreciation, which leads to acceptance, which leads to unity; and***

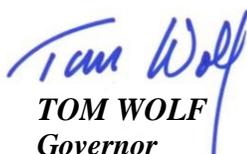
***WHEREAS, October 11<sup>th</sup> is National Coming Out Day, October 14<sup>th</sup> is the anniversary of the first march on Washington by LGBTQ people in 1979, and October 18<sup>th</sup> is Spirit Day on which people wear purple in support of LGBTQ youth; and***

***WHEREAS, Pennsylvania was the first to issue an executive order to end anti-gay discrimination in state government in 1975 and was first to create an official panel to consider ways to better serve its LGBTQ residents by creating the Governor's Council of Sexual Minorities in 1976, which is believed to be the first such governmental body of its type in the world.***

***THEREFORE, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim October 2018 LGBTQ History Month in Pennsylvania. I encourage all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to recommit to bring support, acceptance, awareness and recognition of the LGBTQ community.***



***GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this twelfth day of September two thousand eighteen, the year of the commonwealth the two hundred forty-second.***

  
**TOM WOLF**  
Governor