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CITY OF SEATTLE

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CITY CLERK

Office of the Mayor
City of Seattle
Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Executive Order 2016-03: An Executive Order prohibiting the use of City funds for travel by all City employees on City business to the State of North Carolina after passage of H.B. 2 until further notice and reaffirming this Administration's continued commitment to civil rights and ensuring equity for all people in Seattle and beyond.

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Legislature passed and North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory signed into law H.B. 2, which revokes civil rights protections for LGBTQ people; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's H.B. 2 overturns an impending Charlotte ordinance allowing transgender people to use the restroom that aligns with their gender identity; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's H.B. 2 invalidates Charlotte's entire anti-discrimination law and prevents all North Carolina cities and counties from enacting any law that protects LGBT citizens from discrimination; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's H.B. 2 is inconsistent with the work and values of my Administration to promote equity, to end discrimination, to eliminate institutional racism and to advance social justice for the people of Seattle; and

WHEREAS, in his April 16, 1963, letter from Birmingham Jail, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., wrote, an "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere;" the City of Seattle will not stand by idly while discriminatory laws like H.B. 2 are enacted because such laws stand to threaten the equity victories in Seattle and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle will stand with those who are fighting for equity in North Carolina and elsewhere across the country; and

WHEREAS, the use of discretionary public taxpayer dollars should, to the extent possible, reflect the values of the people of our City and should not be used to support the economies of businesses and governments that support and enact discriminatory laws and policies; and

WHEREAS, it is within my authority as the Chief Executive of the City of Seattle to manage, direct and restrict the expenditure of funds appropriated annually through the adopted budget by the Seattle City Council;

Now therefore, I, Edward B. Murray, Mayor of Seattle, hereby affirm the City's commitment to civil rights and ensuring equity for all people in Seattle and beyond and order the following actions:

1. All Executive department and office employees are hereby prohibited from using City funds for travel on City business to the State of North Carolina in light of the passage of H.B. 2 until further notice.

Inquiries by City departments and offices regarding this Executive Order should be directed to Deputy Mayor Kate Joncas at (206) 684-4000.

Dated this 28th day of March, 2016

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Edward B. Murray", is written over a horizontal line.

Edward B. Murray
Mayor, City of Seattle