



**A Proclamation of the Pierce County Council and Executive Proclaiming June 2025 as “LGBTQ+ Pride Month” in Pierce County, Washington.**

**Whereas**, the month of June is internationally recognized as Pride Month, commemorating the Stonewall Uprising of June 28, 1969, in New York City—a pivotal moment in the modern LGBTQ+ civil rights movement, that was sparked by courageous members of the community, including Black and Latina transgender women, who stood up against discrimination and injustice; and

**Whereas**, the legacy of Stonewall has inspired generations to pursue equality, dignity, and visibility for all LGBTQ+ people, and Pride Month serves as both a celebration of progress and a reminder of the ongoing work to ensure safety, acceptance, and inclusion for everyone, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity; and

**Whereas**, Pierce County and the City of Tacoma have a rich history of LGBTQ+ engagement, community-building, and resilience, as reflected in the vibrant annual Tacoma Pride Festival in July and the many contributions of local organizations and individuals; and

**Whereas**, for over 20 years, Tacoma’s Rainbow Center has served as a pillar of support, providing education, advocacy, and celebration for the LGBTQ+ community and allies, and continues to be central to local Pride events and year-round resources; and

**Whereas**, Oasis Youth Center in Tacoma and Lakewood celebrated its 40th anniversary as a community partner serving over 14,000 long-provided LGBTQ+ youth ages 11–24, parents or guardians, and community members since 1985. They provide with a safe and affirming space to connect, learn, and thrive, helping to foster the next generation of leaders and advocates; and

**Whereas**, Tacoma celebrates Pride Month in July, rather than June, to ensure that local events do not conflict with Seattle Pride and other regional celebrations, allowing the community to shine a unique spotlight on local history and culture, and to maximize participation and visibility for the LGBTQ+ community in our area; and

**Whereas**, the Tacoma Pride Festival, held throughout July and culminating in a major street festival, provides opportunities for education, cultural enrichment, and community partnership, fostering understanding and appreciation for the differences that enrich us all; and

**Whereas**, despite significant progress, LGBTQ+ individuals, especially transgender and non-binary people, continue to face disproportionate challenges, including discrimination, housing insecurity, and threats to their rights and well-being, making public affirmation and allyship more important than ever; and

**Whereas**, representation matters, and we celebrate the elections of members of the LGBTQ+ community as leaders in Pierce County, including Congresswoman Randall, Executive Mello, Speaker Jenkins, Port Commissioner Ang, and Superior Court Judge McCleod; and

**Whereas**, every resident of Pierce County deserves to live free from fear, prejudice, discrimination, or violence, and our LGBTQ+ neighbors, co-workers, friends, and family members have contributed immeasurably to civic, economic, and cultural life in our community; **Now, Therefore**,

**BE IT PROCLAIMED on this 3rd day of June 2025** by the Pierce County Council and Executive that June 2025 is hereby designated “LGBTQ+ Pride Month” in Pierce County, Washington. We encourage all residents to join in celebrating the history, culture, and achievements of the LGBTQ+ community, to participate in Tacoma and surrounding area Pride events, and to continue working toward a future where everyone is valued, respected, and included.

**PIERCE COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

Ryan N. Mello, Pierce County Executive

**PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Jani Hitchen, Chair, District No. 6

Rosie Ayala, District No. 4

Bryan Yambe, District No. 5

Robyn Denson, District No. 7