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## **Michigan Civil Rights Commission Reiterates Call for Legislature to Protect LGBT Individuals under ELCRA, Michigan's Civil Rights Law**

Kalamazoo — On Monday, 11-24, the Michigan Civil Rights Commission (MCRC) passed a resolution reiterating their long-standing support for expanding the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act (ELCRA), and called on the legislature to add protection for sexual orientation and gender identity/expression.

“The Commission urges the Michigan Legislature to present a bill to the Governor that protects all residents and visitors in Michigan by amending the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to add sexual orientation and gender identity, and we urge the Governor to sign it. The Commission also reiterates its support of the constitutional protection of religious liberty, and of not placing any substantial and undue burden on any person’s religious exercise, and without lessening any existing civil rights protection.”

The Commission’s position is a reiteration of their more than 30 years of support for expanding ELCRA, most recently articulated in the [Report on LGBT Inclusion Under Michigan Law](#), prepared by the Department of Civil Rights and adopted by this Commission on March 25, 2013.

Commissioners clarified that the resolution supports the intent of the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA).

The Michigan Civil Rights Commission was created by the Michigan Constitution to carry out constitutional and legal guarantees against discrimination. The Commission is charged with investigating alleged discrimination against any person because of religion, race, color or national origin, sex, age, marital status, height, weight, arrest record, and physical and mental disability.

To learn more about the [Michigan Civil Rights Commission](#) and the [Michigan Department of Civil Rights](#), visit [www.michigan.gov/mdcr](http://www.michigan.gov/mdcr). Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/midcr](https://www.facebook.com/midcr) and follow us on Twitter @MiCivilRights.

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