



Mid-America LGBT Chamber of Commerce

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Executive Director Suzanne Wheeler

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chamber Applauds Expanded LGBT Discrimination Protections Recognized Under Kansas State Law

Kansas Human Rights Commission's Interpretation of a 2019 Statute offers expanded LGBT protections in employment, housing, and public accommodation

Kansas City, Missouri | Monday, August 24, 2020– The Kansas Human Rights Commission (KHRC) will now accept complaints of "sex" discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodation, inclusive of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Kansas state law now expands the historic U.S. Supreme Court Bostock decision on Title VII, to include companies with more than four but less than 15 employees. KHRC's decision applies the law of the land to even smaller businesses which were left out of the original U.S. Supreme Court decision. Additional KHRC guidance is forthcoming, aligning the Court's decision to the Kansas Act Against Discrimination's anti-discrimination provisions.

“With nearly 1 in 6 Americans employed by small business, we applaud KHRC's decision to expand LGBT discrimination protections in the state of Kansas” said Leon Harden, Public



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Policy Chair for the Mid-America LGBT Chamber of Commerce. “Although we still have work to do to fully realize LGBT equal rights under the law, this decision is a win,” Harden said.

About the Chamber

The Mid-America LGBT Chamber of Commerce is a proud affiliate of the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce and exists to advocate, promote and facilitate the success of the LGBT business community and their allies through the guiding principles of equality, inclusion, economics and education. Through membership, networking, and professional development programming, the Chamber seeks to foster a more inclusive and vibrant economy in Kansas City and the surrounding region.