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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jacksonville FL, February 4, 2016: The Jacksonville Civic Council supports a Human Rights Ordinance that protects all members of our community. All citizens of Jacksonville should be protected from discrimination.

We commend Mayor Curry's Executive Order prohibiting employment discrimination by the City and its vendors, for any reason including sexual orientation and gender identity. With this action, Mayor Curry has aligned the City of Jacksonville with virtually every large city and employer in the State of Florida. It is a strong first step. But our community cannot stop there.

The place we call home should welcome all individuals, regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity. As the largest City in the region, we must lead by example and demonstrate that there is no place for discrimination in housing, employment and public services for any reason.

Breaking down the walls of discrimination is never easy and requires strong leadership by our elected leaders. We encourage our elected leaders to work together to fully understand the scope and impact of Mayor Curry's Executive Order and take clear and timely steps to eliminate discrimination and realize the goal of One City One Jacksonville.

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The mission of the Jacksonville Civic Council is to promote a fiscally responsible, economically vibrant, thriving community, which offers opportunity for all its residents. We accomplish this mission by supporting: a safe and healthy city, great schools, a growing economy with a varied base of growth industries, a standard of operational excellence at all levels of government and a fun and energetic community with a strong downtown, arts, recreation, cultural and sports environment.

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