

# JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

## **AN ORDINANCE**

establishing the Jackson County LGBTQ+ Commission; providing for its purpose, membership, powers, and duties; and assigning administrative support.

### **INTRODUCED BY Jalen Anderson, County Legislator**

WHEREAS, Jackson County is committed to promoting equity, inclusion, and the well-being of all residents; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ residents experience disparities in public health, housing stability, safety, and economic opportunity; and

WHEREAS, inclusive policies and community-informed governance strengthen outcomes for all residents; and

WHEREAS, advisory commissions provide a structured mechanism for engagement, transparency, and accountability; and

WHEREAS, establishing a dedicated LGBTQ+ Commission will support data-informed policy recommendations and improve coordination of services;

### **BE IT ORDAINED by the County Legislature of Jackson County, Missouri:**

#### **Section 1. Establishment.**

There is hereby established the Jackson County LGBTQ+ Commission, an advisory body to the County Legislature and County Executive.

#### **Section 2. Purpose.**

The Commission shall advise on issues affecting LGBTQ+ residents, promote inclusive policies, and serve as a liaison between the community and County government.

#### **Section 3. Membership.**

The Commission shall consist of nine (9) members: six (6) district representatives and three (3) at-large members.

#### **Section 4. Appointment.**

Members shall be appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Legislature.

#### **Section 5. Terms.**

Members shall serve three-year terms with staggered initial appointments.

#### **Section 6. Meetings.**

The Commission shall meet no less than six (6) times per year and comply with applicable open meetings laws.

#### **Section 7. Administrative Support.**

Administrative support shall be provided by Jackson County Public Health. Such support shall not limit the independent advisory role of the Commission.

**Section 8. Powers and Duties.**

The Commission may make policy recommendations, review County policies, conduct community engagement, and submit an annual report.

**Section 9. Effective Date.**

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and approval.