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**TEXAS GOP PARTY PLATFORM TAKES DIRECT AIM AT LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY**



**DALLAS, TX (June 22, 2022)** — Last weekend, the Texas Republican Party adopted one of the most hateful and divisive platforms that we’ve ever seen at their biennial convention in Houston. While the platform ranges in extremity, the targets on the backs of the LGBTQ+ community are particularly disturbing. The platform calls homosexuality an “abnormal lifestyle choice,” opposes all efforts to validate transgender identity, and declares support for people that oppose homosexuality based on faith, religion or a belief in “traditional values,” among many other discriminatory positions. Stonewall Democrats of Dallas rejects this party platform of hatred. It is based on lies, fear, discrimination, and intimidation.

“It is very clear that Texas Republicans have declared war on the LGBTQ+ community, and that if they continue to hold majority power after the November election, they will have no mercy in legislating fear and discrimination as a way to marginalize and erase us,” said Todd Hill, President of Stonewall Democrats of Dallas. “This is really unprecedented hate that has been adopted by Republicans, and it is sure to galvanize those that wish to do harm to our community to carry out more assaults against LGBTQ+ people.”

We call on any sensible and disenchanted Republicans with a heart and soul to join the Democratic party. Stonewall Dallas hopes that forces of humanity and acceptance will defeat forces of intolerance and ignorance in November’s election. We’ve got to vote as if our lives depend on it because they do. The Texas Republican Party platform must not be allowed to become mainstream in the state of Texas or anywhere else in the nation because it deliberately throws the LGBTQ+ community into a GOP culture war. LGBTQ+ people must lock arms together with allies to fight back and defend the rights and protections that our predecessors shed blood, sweat, tears, and death for.

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas was founded in 1996 by local activists. Our membership numbers in the hundreds including former and current elected officials. We are one of the largest political organizations in Dallas County and one of the largest chapters of Stonewall Democrats in the United States.

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