

ORDINANCE #2024-09-16 (D)

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING RESTRICTIONS AND PENALTIES RELATED TO HATE INTIMIDATION AND HATE CRIMES

WHEREAS, South Carolina is one of only two states in the United States that do not have any statewide law relating to hate crimes; and

WHEREAS, legislation can provide penalties for a person convicted of a crime with the intent to assault, intimidate, or threaten a person because of his or her race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity, mental or physical disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Conway rejects and condemns all groups and individuals whose ideologies are based on hate, violence, divisiveness, and intolerance; and

WHEREAS, the City of Conway desires to promote a safe and quiet environment for all of our residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the City of Conway is committed to promoting a community that is unified, where people of different races, religions, sexual orientations, and ethnic backgrounds resolve together to overcome the challenges of its past and become stronger and more inclusive.

WHEREAS, in the absence of action at the state level, Conway City Council feels morally and ethically compelled to act to prevent such crimes from going unnoticed and unpunished in Conway;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Conway City Council, that the City of Conway Code of Ordinances, Title 9, Chapter 3, is hereby amended to add Article C – Hate Intimidation and Hate Crimes, as attached hereto.

RATIFIED BY CITY COUNCIL, duly assembled, this 16 day of September, 2024.



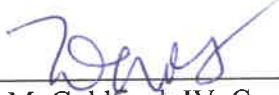
Barbara Jo Blain, Mayor



Larry A. White, Mayor Pro Tem



Amanda Butler, Council Member



William M. Goldfinch IV, Council Member




Julie Ann Hardwick, Council Member



Beth Helms, Council Member



Justin D. Jordan, Council Member



ATTEST: Alicia Shelley, City Clerk

First Reading: September 3, 2024

Final Reading: September 16, 2024