



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

August 30, 2022

City Council President Ian Abreu
Honorable Members of the City Council
133 Williams Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Council President Abreu and Honorable City Council Members:

Pursuant to the Human Relations Commission's request, enclosed for your consideration are amendments to the City's municipal code changing the Human Relation Commission's name to the Human Rights Commission. The amendments also correct minor errors in the Commission's sections of the municipal code.

The New Bedford Human Relations Commission is part of the Massachusetts Human Rights Commission, which is comprised of similar commissions from cities throughout the Commonwealth. Most fellow municipalities follow the Commonwealth's lead and use the name "Human Rights Commission." New Bedford currently uses the title, "Human Relations Commission", and the outlying title has confused those served by the Commission, as well as the community at-large.

To bring New Bedford in line with the majority of the Commonwealth and rectify confusion and inconvenience, I ask that you approve the enclosed amendments renaming the Human Relations Commission as the Human Rights Commission. The first amendment edits those portions of Chapter 2, Articles IX and XVI, which refer to the Human Relations Commission, and the second amends the portion of Chapter 10, Article I, which refers to the Human Relations Commission.

I respectfully request that these proposed amendments be added to the September 8, 2022 City Council Agenda.

Sincerely,

Jonathan F. Mitchell
Mayor

Encls.

cc: Marcelina Rina-Christian, Human Relations Commission

Referred to the Committee on Ordinances.

IN CITY COUNCIL, September 08, 2022

Dennis W. Farias, City Clerk

a true copy attest:

Dennis W. Farias

City Clerk

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
NEW BEDFORD, MA
2022 SEP - 1 PM 12:51
CITY CLERK