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**STATEMENT FROM MAYOR BILL DE BLASIO ON DISCRIMINATORY
LEGISLATION IN MISSISSIPPI**

“Yesterday’s decision by the state of Mississippi to allow outright discrimination against the LGBT community marks yet another sad day in this country for equality, justice and inclusion – three values we hold dear in New York City.

While some legislators in this country try to turn back the clock to a deeply flawed time in our history when the LGBT community was openly discriminated against, we stand in solidarity with all Mississippians and gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and gender non-conforming people everywhere.

I am confident that the people of Mississippi and North Carolina will prevail, as people have done in many other places across the country, and adopt policies and laws like we have in New York City that allow LGBT individuals to live with the dignity and respect they deserve.

The fight for civil rights has never been easy and the path has never been smooth, but we keep marching forward. In New York City, we’ll do everything we can to stand with the LGBT community, and City employees are banned from using public funds on non-essential travel to the state of Mississippi until further notice.”

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