

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS MINIARD CULPEPPER, EDWARD M. FLYNN, BRIAN WORRELL, BREADON, FITZGERALD, LOUIJEUNE, MEJIA, MURPHY, AND PEPÉN



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXAMINE THE ELIMINATION OF THE BOSTON HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION IN THE FY27 OPERATING BUDGET

WHEREAS, The Mayor's FY27 Operating Budget includes no appropriation for the Boston Human Rights Commission, representing a decrease of \$391,622 from the FY26 budget and is effectively eliminating the Commission; *and*

WHEREAS, The FY27 budget proposal states that many of the functions previously performed by the Boston Human Rights Commission will be absorbed by other departments within the Equity Cabinet and supplemented through a heavier reliance on existing state resources; *and*

WHEREAS, The City Council has a responsibility to examine the implications of eliminating the Boston Human Rights Commission, including the potential impacts on civil rights enforcement, discrimination complaint intake and resolution, community outreach, language access, and public trust in local government institutions; *and*

WHEREAS, Questions remain regarding whether existing Equity Cabinet departments possess the staffing, expertise, resources, and operational capacity necessary to effectively absorb the Commission's responsibilities and whether state agencies can adequately address the needs of Boston residents in a timely and accessible manner; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing regarding the proposed elimination of the Boston Human Rights Commission in the FY27 Operating Budget and the transfer of its responsibilities to other Equity Cabinet departments, and that representatives of the Equity Cabinet and other interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed on: June 3, 2026