

**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**
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City-County Council Approves Office of Equity, Belonging, and Inclusion

Indianapolis – On Monday, September 11, the Indianapolis City-County Council passed Proposal No. 228, which establishes the Office of Equity, Belonging, and Inclusion within the Office of the Mayor. The Chief Diversity & Equity Officer, Ben Tapper, will serve as the head of the office to continue to guide the strategic equity, belonging, and inclusion vision for the city-county enterprise.

“Creating an Office of Equity, Belonging and Inclusion for the City of Indianapolis is the next step in a process that the City began in December 2019 to normalize and operationalize racially equitable systems of local government,” President Vop Osili. “This work of dismantling inequities in our public institutions begins with an acknowledging that such inequities exist, are neither random nor accidental, and have been sustained through time by systems designed for that very purpose. To have an impact, our efforts to dismantle inequity must be equally intentional, equitable, and sustained.”

The proposal was co-sponsored by President Vop Osili, Administration and Finance Chair Frank Mascari, and Councillor La Keisha Jackson.

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