



# SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

## Legislative Summary

Res 31928

Record No.: Res 31928

Type: Resolution (Res)

Status: Adopted

Version: 2

Ord. no:

In Control: City Clerk

File Created: 01/21/2020

Final Action: 01/27/2020

**Title:** A RESOLUTION reaffirming Seattle as a welcoming city and condemning all forms of oppression throughout the world.

### Date

Notes:

Filed with City Clerk:

Mayor's Signature:

Sponsors: Pedersen

Vetoed by Mayor:

Veto Overridden:

Veto Sustained:

Attachments:

Uploaded By: Emilia.Sanchez@seattle.gov

Filing Requirements/Dept Action:

### History of Legislative File

Legal Notice Published:

☐ Yes

☐ No

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	City Clerk	01/21/2020	sent for review	Council President's Office			
	Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was sent for review. to the Council President's Office						
1	Council President's Office	01/24/2020	sent for review	City Council			
	Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was sent for review. to the City Council						
1	City Council	01/27/2020	referred	City Council			
	Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was referred. to the City Council						
1	City Council	01/27/2020	adopted as amended				Pass
	Action Text: The Motion carried, the Resolution (Res) was adopted as amended by the following vote, and the President signed the Resolution:						
	Notes: <u>ACTION 1:</u>						

Motion was made and duly seconded to adopt Resolution 31928.

ACTION 2:

By unanimous consent, Council Rule III.A.8, relating to amendments presented to the City Council at least two hours before the meeting, was suspended to allow consideration of an amendment to Resolution 31928.

ACTION 3:

Motion was made by Councilmember Pedersen, duly seconded and carried, to amend Resolution 31928, by adding a new second recital, as shown in the underlined language below:

WHEREAS, "oppression" is defined by the Cambridge Dictionary as "a situation in which people are governed in an unfair and cruel way and prevented from having opportunities and freedom" and is defined by Merriam-Webster as an "unjust or cruel exercise of authority or power."

ACTION 4:

Motion was made and duly seconded to adopt Resolution 31928 as amended.

In Favor: 4 Councilmember Herbold, Councilmember Lewis, Councilmember Pedersen, Councilmember Strauss  
Opposed: 1 Councilmember Morales

2 City Clerk 01/27/2020 attested by City Clerk  
Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was attested by City Clerk.

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**CITY OF SEATTLE**  
**RESOLUTION** 31928

A RESOLUTION reaffirming Seattle as a welcoming city and condemning all forms of oppression throughout the world.

WHEREAS, previous Seattle City Councils have affirmed that Seattle is a welcoming city and have periodically condemned certain instances of oppression in various parts of the world; and

WHEREAS, “oppression” is defined by the Cambridge Dictionary as “a situation in which people are governed in an unfair and cruel way and prevented from having opportunities and freedom” and is defined by Merriam-Webster as an “unjust or cruel exercise of authority or power;”

WHEREAS, as a Human Rights City, Seattle is committed to protecting and promoting human rights and dignity, including civil, political, social, economic, and cultural rights; and

WHEREAS, Seattle continues to promote inclusion, integration, equity, and acceptance of a wide range of diverse opinions and encourages civic participation by all its residents; and

WHEREAS, the City has a history of stating its commitment to human rights with the creation in 1963, of the Seattle Human Rights Commission to make recommendations “with regard to the development of programs for the promotion of equality, justice and understanding among all citizens of the City” and recommend policies “affecting civil rights and equal opportunity;” and

WHEREAS, Resolution 31730, adopted by the Council in February 2017, affirmed the City of Seattle as a Welcoming City that promotes policies and programs to foster inclusion, serves its residents without regard to immigration and refugee status or other protected

1 class status, and continues its commitment to advocating and supporting the well-being of  
2 all residents; and

3 WHEREAS, in response to the Trump administration's January 25, 2017 Executive Orders,  
4 which expanded the scope and speed of immigration law enforcement, the Council  
5 passed Ordinance 125296, providing the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs \$1  
6 million to contract with organizations to provide legal representation or guidance and  
7 referral services for legal representation to indigent persons in need of representation for  
8 matters related to immigration status; and

9 WHEREAS, in October 2017, the Council adopted Resolution 31775, strengthening public  
10 safety by affirming the City's support for immigrant and refugee witnesses, survivors,  
11 and victims of crime through exploration of strategies and partnerships to help them feel  
12 safer in reporting crimes given the potential for the Trump administration's policies to  
13 create a chilling effect on reporting; and

14 WHEREAS, in October 2017, the Council also adopted Resolution 31779, affirming Seattle's  
15 support of immigrant communities through support of the Deferred Action Childhood  
16 Arrival (DACA) program and committing to policies that protect vulnerable communities  
17 while opposing national and federal policies and rhetoric targeting immigrants and  
18 immigrant communities; and

19 WHEREAS, the Council in June 2018 adopted Resolution 31822, opposing the Trump  
20 administration's practices of separating and detaining migrant families seeking asylum at  
21 the U.S.-Mexico border and detention camps in violation of the Universal Declaration of  
22 Human Rights; and

1 WHEREAS, the Council adopted Resolution 31844 in October 2018, affirming that the  
2 principles adopted by the Council in being a welcoming city also apply to human rights  
3 defenders, responding to the increase in targeting for persecution human rights defenders  
4 in Washington State by the federal administration; and

5 WHEREAS, in December 2018, the Council adopted Resolution 31858, affirming and  
6 commending the validity of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to uphold the  
7 rights and dignity of Native peoples and the human rights of immigrants, as well as all  
8 other residents and visitors to Seattle; and

9 WHEREAS, in May 2019, the Council adopted Resolution 31890, declaring the City's support  
10 as a welcoming city for providing permanent protection and a path to citizenship for  
11 immigrant youth and temporary protected status (TPS) and Deferred Enforced Departure  
12 (DED) recipients; and

13 WHEREAS, seven of the nine-member City Council were sworn into office on January 6, 2020;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, the new City Council is in agreement with previous Councils in standing in  
16 solidarity with the City's residents and opposing all forms of oppression affecting  
17 communities throughout the world; and

18 WHEREAS, the City Council remains committed to standing against global oppression and  
19 requests that our elected officials representing Seattle at the federal level, currently U.S.  
20 Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell and Representatives Pramila Jayapal and  
21 Adam Smith, continue to support and take action to object to such oppression; NOW,  
22 THEREFORE,

23 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE THAT:**

1           Section 1. The Seattle City Council reaffirms that Seattle is a welcoming city.

2           Section 2. The Seattle City Council condemns all forms of oppression throughout the  
3 world.

4           Section 3. The City's Office of Intergovernmental Relations will continue to alert the  
5 Seattle City Council about international issues impacting Seattle and inform Councilmembers  
6 when City Council action could contribute meaningfully to a positive outcome.

7           Section 4. This resolution does not in any way impede or limit any Seattle City  
8 Councilmember's ability to introduce future resolutions to state their views about international  
9 issues.

1 Adopted by the City Council the 27<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2020,  
2 and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this 27<sup>th</sup> day of  
3 January, 2020.

4 

5 President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

6 Filed by me this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2020.

7 

8 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

9 (Seal)