



City of Seattle
Edward B. Murray
Mayor

April 16, 2015

Honorable Tim Burgess, President
Seattle City Council
City Hall, 2nd Floor
600 4th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Council President Burgess:

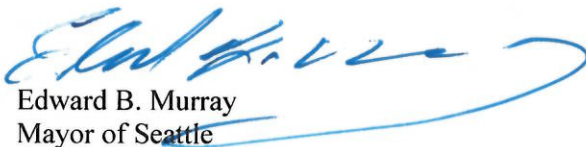
I am pleased to transmit the attached proposed Resolution that reaffirms the City of Seattle's support of Somali communities to continue remittances to Somalia and the Horn of Africa.

Out of concerns that remittances originating in the U.S. are being sent to Somalia and the Horn of Africa to fund terrorist activities, the federal government now prohibits these transactions. Doing so has created a hardship on Seattle's Somali community and their family and friends who rely on remittances for basic needs including food, water, shelter and education. So far, the federal government has taken no steps to rescind or re-think the policy. I would like to explore whether there is a local solution to the problem.

The proposed resolution reaffirms City's support of the Somali community in their desire to support their loved ones in the Horn of Africa. The resolution includes a request for the City to work with concerned parties to find an amicable solution that facilitates the normal flow of remittances to Somalia and the Horn of Africa.

In a demonstration of support for our Somali community and their loved ones, I ask you and other members of the Seattle City Council to adopt this resolution. Thank you for your consideration of this proposal. Should you have questions, please contact Steve Lee at (206) 684-7904.

Sincerely,



Edward B. Murray
Mayor of Seattle

cc: Seattle City Council