

# SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

### Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: Res 31642 Version: 1 Name:   Type: Resolution (Res) Status: Adopted   In control: City Clerk   On agenda: 12/14/2015 Ord. No.   Final Action: Ord. No.   Title: A RESOLUTION declaring support for Muslim communities, affirming the religious pluralism of the United States, and urging Seattle residents to stand together for peace and understanding.   Sponsors: Tim Burgess   Indexes: United States United States					
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#### Attachments: 1. Summary and Fiscal Note, 2. Signed Resolution 31642

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
12/17/2015	1	City Clerk	attested by City Clerk	
12/17/2015	1	Mayor	Signed	
12/17/2015	1	Mayor	returned	
12/16/2015	1	City Clerk	submitted for Mayor's signature	
12/14/2015	1	City Council	adopted	Pass
12/14/2015	1	City Council	referred	

#### **CITY OF SEATTLE**

#### RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_

- A RESOLUTION declaring support for Muslim communities, affirming the religious pluralism of the United States, and urging Seattle residents to stand together for peace and understanding.
- WHEREAS, Muslims are part of our society and, inspired by their faith, give back every day as U.S. military

personnel, police officers, doctors, nurses, caregivers, teachers, and in many other roles contributing to

the success of the United States of America and The City of Seattle; and

WHEREAS, our nation's founding documents emphasize the freedom of religion and a society that embraces

religious pluralism; and

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle values the many different cultures, religions, and traditions our residents

embrace; and

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle continues to work toward a more inclusive society and welcomes cultural,

ethnic, and religious diversity; and

- WHEREAS, Muslims, both native born and immigrant, represent an increasingly important thread in the tapestry of American society; and
- WHEREAS, the Muslim population in Washington State is estimated to be approximately 100,000 people, many thousands of whom live in Seattle, and who share the same American values and freedoms that we all cherish; and
- WHEREAS, a significant percentage of Seattle's immigrants and refugees are Muslim and have come to Seattle seeking a safe place to work, study, or raise a family; and
- WHEREAS, throughout history the United States has welcomed wave after wave of immigrants and refugees, who add enormous value to the economic and cultural life of our nation; and
- WHEREAS, presently, anti-Muslim rhetoric has increased in the national discourse and rates of hate violence targeting Muslim families and children are at record highs across our nation, which is detrimental to all people who cherish freedom and liberty; and
- WHEREAS, some of the darkest moments in our nation's and our city's history have emerged from similar climates of fear; and
- WHEREAS, this fear-based rhetoric distorts the reality of terrorism in the United States, where more individuals have been killed since September 11, 2001, by those who espouse other extremist ideologies like white supremacy or antigovernment fanatics than by those who espouse a perverted form of Islam; and
- WHEREAS, hateful rhetoric only enables extremist ideologies to flourish in the dark corners of global society; and
- WHEREAS, The City of Seattle finds this anti-Muslim rhetoric and hate violence to be against American principles of religious freedom and fairness and contrary to the vision we hold as a nation that welcomes all people; and

WHEREAS, all of Seattle's residents deserve to live in a safe environment free of hate and discrimination; and WHEREAS, The City of Seattle wishes to extend the traditional Islamic greeting of "Peace be upon you" to all of its Muslim residents and visitors; NOW, THEREFORE,

## BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:

Section 1. The City of Seattle does not tolerate anti-Muslim hate speech and violent acts committed against those who are Muslim or perceived as being Muslim, their places of worship, businesses, schools, and community centers. These are in direct contradiction to values of The City of Seattle and our open American way of life. We encourage our residents to recognize and celebrate the cultural, ethnic, and religious diversity that is represented in our City. We encourage residents to take extra efforts to ensure the safety of their Muslim neighbors. We encourage all City departments to direct appropriate attention and resources to supporting those targeted by hate speech and hate crimes.

Adop	oted by the City Council the day of	, 2015, and signed by me in
open session	in authentication of its adoption this day	
of	, 2015.	

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

The Mayor concurred the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

Edward B. Murray, Mayor

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Filed by me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

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