

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-73

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY AT THE BORDER

Whereas, Immigrants and refugees of all nations have contributed to the health, well-being, and general welfare of the City of Salem as families and neighbors;

Whereas, Immigrants and refugees of all nations have contributed to the prosperity of Oregon as workers and taxpayers;

Whereas, Inclusion and integration of all residents of Salem is a vital concern for the general welfare of Salem in all respects;

Whereas, Discrimination based on national origin, race, ethnicity, language, gender identity, sexual preference, marital status, disability, income, citizenship status, or religion or perceived national origin is a chronic aspect of life for immigrant and refugee populations of Oregon;

Whereas, Chronic discrimination leads to community disengagement, diminished opportunities for integration, increased stigmatization, greater incidents of health morbidity;

Whereas, Chronic discrimination negatively impacts local economic activity;

Whereas, Promotion of health, well-being, and general welfare are core obligations of Salem;

Whereas, Prosperity requires harnessing all Salem's available labor, skills, and ideas to grow Salem's economy and expand opportunities;

Whereas, Every Salem resident should be treated with compassion and respect regardless of national origin or citizenship status;

Whereas, The use of City funds, personnel or equipment for the enforcement of federal immigration law is prohibited. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit City personnel from complying with a lawfully issued warrant;

Whereas, The provision of services or benefits by City of Salem shall not be conditioned upon a resident's federal immigration status, except as required by federal or State law;

Whereas, No City funds, personnel or equipment shall be used for, or to assist in, the enforcement of any federal law that discriminates against people based on their religion, race, ethnicity, country of origin, language, gender identity, sexual preference, marital status, disability, income, or citizenship status, and

Whereas, Salem is an Inclusive City that embraces, celebrates, and welcomes its immigrant and refugee residents and their contributions to the collective prosperity of all residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, OREGON,
RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Salem reaffirms its status as an inclusive city and stands in solidarity and shared anguish with our immigrant residents.

Section 2. The City of Salem shares in the outrage against our national government's Zero Tolerance policy toward immigrants, including indefinite family detention. This policy has resulted in children being taken away from their parents and asylum seekers being treated as criminals. Despite the President's Executive Order to stop separating families, they will still be held in prisons and treated as criminals and there is no process in place for reuniting families that have already been torn apart by this policy.

Section 3. The City of Salem supports and encourages the lawsuit to be filed by Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum jointly with other states' Attorneys General challenging the federal policy.

Section 4. The City of Salem also supports the decision by Governor Kate Brown to refuse to deploy the Oregon National Guard to the Mexican border.

Section 5. This resolution is effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED by the City Council this 9th day of July, 2018.

ATTEST:

City Recorder

Approved by City Attorney: _____