

Proposed: 2/6/2017

RESOLUTION NO. 15-2017 (CRR)

By Council Member

A Resolution strongly objecting to the recent Presidential Executive Order temporarily banning entry into the United States for migrants from seven Muslim-majority countries and refugees from around the world and joining with all Americans who believe that the Executive Order is unlawful and un-American; declaring the City of Cleveland Heights to be a “Welcoming City” and calling upon the people of Cleveland Heights to join together to building a stronger, united community; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, on Friday January 29, 2017, the President of the United States issued an Executive Order banning entry into the U.S. for migrants and U.S. legal residents from Iraq, Iran, Sudan, Somalia, Syria, Libya and Yemen, and for migrants from across the globe; and

WHEREAS, this Executive Order is anathema to our shared values as a nation of immigrants, a nation that grants relief and safe haven to people from war-torn countries and from religious, ethnic and all other forms of persecution; and

WHEREAS, this ban enflames U.S. relations with Muslim-majority countries, indeed with all Muslims, and will surely make the United States less safe from acts of terrorism; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, as in Cleveland Heights, our success depends on making sure that all residents feel welcome; and

WHEREAS, Cleveland Heights always has been and continues to be a welcoming city to everyone, including immigrants who contribute economically and culturally to making our city a better place; and

WHEREAS, immigrants and refugees are a vital part of this city: bringing fresh perspectives and new ideas; starting businesses; and contributing to Cleveland’s treasured and vibrant diversity; and

WHEREAS, this Council honors the spirit of unity that brings neighbors together and makes our community the kind of place where diverse people from around the world feel valued and want to put down roots; and

WHEREAS, regardless of where we are born or what we look like, we are Cleveland Heights residents united in our efforts to build a stronger community; and

WHEREAS, this Council understands that by recognizing the contributions that all of us make to create a vibrant culture and a growing economy, we make our city, and our country, more prosperous and inclusive; and

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WHEREAS, this Executive Order violates the principles of the U.S. Constitution; and these executive orders promote dangerous public policy, eroding the trust between public safety agencies and the communities they serve, which ultimately undermine safety in the City of Cleveland Heights and across our country.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. That this Council strongly objects to the Presidential Executive Order temporarily banning entry into the United States for migrants from Iraq, Syria, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen, seven (7) Muslim majority countries and refugees from around the world and joins with all Americans who believe that the Executive Order is unlawful and un-American and further, this Council declares the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio to be a “Welcoming City” and calls upon the people of Cleveland Heights to join together to build a stronger, united community.

SECTION 2. The Clerk of Council is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the President of the United States and Ohio Senators Rob Portman and Sherrod Brown.

SECTION 3. Notice of the passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 4. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to timely object to the President’s Executive Order which enflames U.S. relations with Muslim-majority countries, indeed with all Muslims, and will surely make the United States less safe from acts of terrorism. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more of the members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.

CHERYL L. STEPHENS, Mayor
President of Council

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MITCH MICHALEC
Acting Clerk of Council

PASSED: