

*In the City Council, February 2nd, in the Year Two Thousand and Seventeen*

Upon the recommendation of Councilor Alisa F. Klein, Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra, Councilor William H. Dwight, and Councilor James Nash

R-17.247

A Resolution

Condemning President Trump's January 27, 2017

Executive Order "Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States"

WHEREAS, Northampton is a diverse and vibrant community of residents who themselves, or by ancestry, hail from all over the world and represent a variety of faiths, ethnicities, and races; and

WHEREAS, in its December, 2015 Resolution Calling for the Welcoming of Refugees in the City of Northampton, the City Council affirmed its commitment to Northampton "serving as a place of sanctuary and refuge for refugees from around the world;" and

WHEREAS, Northampton is scheduled to receive and resettle 51 refugees in 2017; and

WHEREAS, the City of Northampton is committed to maintaining its status as a Sanctuary City, meaning we will not honor or enforce any detainer request from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) that is non-criminal, and will continue to protect our residents from unfair targeting; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2017, President Donald Trump issued an Executive Order that suspended immediately entry of all refugees to the United States for 120 days, barred Syrian refugees indefinitely, and blocked entry into the U.S. for 90 days for citizens of seven majority-Muslim countries: Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Order is unconstitutional and is morally reprehensible; and

WHEREAS, President Trump's order establishes an unprecedented and unconstitutional religious test for immigration into the country, called by the American Civil Liberties Union a "euphemism for discriminating against Muslims," that violates the fundamental American values of religious freedom and equality and undermines the principles of inclusion and dignity for all upon which the United States is built; and

WHEREAS, disregard of federal court injunctions of the Executive Order constitutes a violation of the separation of powers between the three branches of the federal government established under the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Northampton City Council believes that those fleeing violence and persecution must be welcomed and supported in the United States, not targeted by hate; and

WHEREAS, refugee and immigrant communities in the United States are now living in fear for their safety and security in this country; and

WHEREAS, the Northampton City Council recognizes that it is the ethical, moral, and social responsibility of every human being to uplift and protect one another; and

WHEREAS, the Northampton City Council is committed to channeling the grief and outrage felt by many in the City into defending and protecting refugees and immigrants, challenging the dangerous policy proposals of the Trump administration, and working to build a United States and a community that is welcoming and accepting of all people;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts stands in solidarity with refugees and immigrants, and in opposition to President Donald Trump's January 27, 2017 Executive Order "Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States" and calls upon the President to rescind the Order immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts believes in this nation's founding principle of religious freedom, refuses to ban people for their faith, and believes that we are a city and nation made stronger when we welcome all people.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts remains committed to the City's status as a Sanctuary City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts remains committed to accepting refugees and immigrants despite the Executive Order.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts stands in solidarity with our Massachusetts Senators Ed Markey and Elizabeth Warren, and our State Attorney General, Maura Healy, who tweeted, respectively, "As war forces millions from their homeland, U.S. should welcome more #refugees, not less. I will fight @realDonaldTrump's

immoral Muslim ban,"<sup>1</sup> and "We will not allow a Muslim ban in the United States of America,"<sup>2</sup> and "We condemn Donald Trump's unconstitutional, un-American, and unlawful executive order #NoBanNoWall"<sup>3</sup> and calls upon all of our elected officials in Massachusetts and beyond to do everything in their power to ensure that the Executive Order is rescinded.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Northampton, Massachusetts calls upon the residents of Northampton to be guided by their consciences to resist this Executive Order and any others which they deem to be illegal or unethical.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Northampton City Council will abide by, and defend with all the resources available to their office, the principles and mandates of the Constitution, including religious freedom.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Administrative Assistant to the City Council shall cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to U.S. President Donald Trump; U.S. Senators Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey; U.S. Representatives Richard Neal and Jim McGovern; Massachusetts Governor Charles Baker; Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey; Massachusetts Senate President Stanley Rosenberg; Massachusetts State Representative Peter Kocot, and Northampton, Massachusetts Mayor David J. Narkewicz.

In City Council, February 2, 2017  
Passed First Reading, on a Roll Call Vote of 9 Yes, 0 No  
Attest: Pamela L. Polley, Clerk of Council

In City Council, February 2, 2017  
Passed Second Reading, on a Roll Call Vote of 9 Yes, 0 No  
Attest: Pamela L. Polley, Clerk of Council

Approved: David J. Narkewicz, Mayor

Rules suspended, passed two readings and enrolled

I hereby certify that the above Resolution passed the Northampton City Council on February 2, 2017  
David J. Narkewicz, Mayor approved the Resolution on February 3, 2017

Attest: Pamela L. Polley, Clerk of Council

<sup>1</sup> <https://twitter.com/SenMarkey/status/825462596220383233>

<sup>2</sup> <https://twitter.com/SenWarren/status/825524792958803972>

<sup>3</sup> <https://twitter.com/MassAGO>