



The City of Minneapolis

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

By Lilligren, Schiff, Gordon, Reich, Hofstede, Johnson, Samuels, Goodman, Glidden, Tuthill, Quincy,
Colvin Roy, Hodges

Support of the Somali-American Communities' Ability to Continue Remittances to the Horn of Africa

WHEREAS, Minneapolis is proud to be home of the largest concentration of Somali-Americans in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Minneapolis recognizes the strong bond between its residents here and their loved ones in the Horn of Africa; and

WHEREAS, Millions of Somalis rely on remittances from the diaspora as their only means of income and support; and

WHEREAS, Somalia lacks any functioning banking system and is currently suffering the most severe famine on Earth since 1984; and

WHEREAS, The majority of the remittances are small amounts of money sent to family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Somali-American money transfer businesses are not accused of breaking any city, state or federal laws; and

WHEREAS, The Somali-American community in Minneapolis cooperates with law enforcement and strongly denounces terrorism; and

WHEREAS, The Somali community in Minneapolis provides significant financial support to their relatives in Somalia that provide basic needs like food, shelter, clothing and education; and

WHEREAS, The halting of these funds causes great hardship to many people in need in Somalia;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved the City Council of the City of Minneapolis that we stand shoulder to shoulder with our Somali-American colleagues, neighbors and constituents in their desire to support their loved ones in the Horn of Africa and across the globe.

Be It Further Resolved that we strongly urge all concerned parties to find an amicable solution that facilitates the normal flow of remittances without compromising the safety and security of the United States.

Passed by the City Council this the
Thirteenth Day of January A.D. 2012

Barbara A. Johnson, *President of Council*

APPROVED:

R. T. Rybak, *Mayor*

ATTEST:

Casey Joe Carl, *City Clerk*