



Resolution No. 2016R-515

City of Minneapolis

File No. 16-01600

**By Warsame, Glidden, Reich, Gordon, Frey, B. Johnson,
Yang, Goodman, Cano, Bender, Quincy, A. Johnson, and Palmisano**

Condemning violence and hate speech, and expressing solidarity with Muslims and all those targeted for their ethnicity, race, or religion.

Whereas, the United States was founded by immigrants, many fleeing religious persecution, who enshrined freedom of religion as one of our nation’s fundamental legal and ethical principles; and

Whereas, the history of Islam in the United States began even before the country’s founding when African Muslims were enslaved and brought to the Americas, where they later helped in numerous ways to build this country, including sacrificing their lives in every major war from the Revolutionary War on; and

Whereas, there are more than 3 million Muslims living in the United States today, and approximately 50,000 living in the city of Minneapolis, making invaluable contributions to our economy, our social and political life, and our culture; and

Whereas, according to the Minnesota Historical Society, records show Muslim presence in Minnesota since the 1880’s; and

Whereas, the Muslim community in Minneapolis includes individuals with roots in Africa, South Asia, Eastern Europe and the Middle East, as well as members of the Nation of Islam and other groups; and

Whereas, there has been an unprecedented backlash since 9/11 in the form of hate crimes and employment discrimination toward Muslim Americans and those perceived as Muslims; and

Whereas, Muslim Americans, and those perceived as Muslims, are frequently the targets of abusive and discriminatory police practices sanctioned by the state including surveillance in their neighborhoods and places of worship; and

Whereas, we are saddened and outraged at the recent escalation of hateful rhetoric against Muslims, those perceived to be Muslims, immigrants, and all people of color, and we are particularly concerned to see political figures and elected government officials leading this escalation in order to gain power; and

Whereas, in the face of extreme bigotry and violence, Muslim communities and their leaders are using the language and teachings of Islam to promote peace, justice and service, and their institutions are continuing to play an essential societal role providing charitable and humanitarian services to those in need; and

Whereas, we, as elected representatives of the people, have a special responsibility not to stay silent in the face of hate violence and discrimination against any of our constituents or countrymen;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:


That the Mayor and City Council hereby support efforts to further religious inclusion:

- (1) Condemn all hateful speech and violent action directed at Muslims, those perceived to be Muslims, immigrants, and people of color.
- (2) Categorically reject political tactics that use fear to manipulate voters or to gain power or influence.
- (3) Commit to pursuing a policy agenda that affirms civil and human rights, and ensures that those targeted on the basis of race, religion or immigration status can turn to government without fear of recrimination.
- (4) Reaffirm the value of a pluralistic society composed of multiple cultures, and the inalienable right of every person to live and practice their faith without fear.

Committee: N/A Public Hearing: N/A Publication: NOV 26 2016

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE				
MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
REICH	X			
GORDON	X			
FREY	X			
B. JOHNSON				X
YANG	X			
WARSAME	X			
GOODMAN	X			
GLIDDEN	X			
CANO	X			
BENDER	X			
QUINCY				X
A. JOHNSON	X			
PALMISANO	X			
DATE:	NOV 18 2016			


APPROVED VETOED



 MAYOR HODGES

NOV 21 2016

 DATE

Certified an official action of the City Council
 ATTEST:


 CITY CLERK

Presented to the Mayor:	NOV 18 2016	Received from the Mayor:	NOV 21 2016
-------------------------	--------------------	--------------------------	--------------------