

**MEMORIALIZING RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
KINGSTON, NEW YORK, REAFFIRMING KINGSTON AS A WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE CITY**

Sponsored By: Laws and Rules Committee
Aldermen Eckert, Scott-Childress, Carey

WHEREAS, the City of Kingston, N.Y. is proud to be a city that values diversity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kingston has long considered itself a city of immigrants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kingston is committed to upholding and protecting the civil and human rights of all individuals within the City and has long prohibited discrimination based on race, ethnicity, immigration status, national origin, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability or other protected characteristics in the provision of its services; and

WHEREAS, it is particularly essential to the mission of the City's emergency services departments that victims report crimes or injuries, cooperate fully in investigations, and summon help when needed; and

WHEREAS, the threat of deportation or prosecution for no reason other than immigration status may discourage residents without legal immigration status or who have family members or friends without legal immigration status from reporting crimes or injuries, cooperating in investigations, seeking opportunities for their children living in this community, or summoning help when needed; and

WHEREAS, enforcement of federal immigration laws is the prerogative of federal enforcement agencies, not local law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Kingston Police Department has long held to the practice that it does not inquire into a person's immigration status upon initial contact; and

WHEREAS, the Kingston Police Department has long determined that it will give full priority to public safety and justice concerns in preference over rigid enforcement of immigration regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Kingston Police Department, Mayor and Police Commission will develop policies and procedures as to if and when undocumented foreign nationals will be referred to the appropriate federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kingston has no formal existing agreements to enforce immigration policy; and

WHEREAS, no other City department inquires into the immigration status of individuals before making government services available to that individual; and

WHEREAS, these practices are generally considered to be "Sanctuary City" policies; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of Kingston has reaffirmed the City's commitment to be welcoming and inclusive to all and supports codifying these City's long-standing practices into City policy; and

WHEREAS, federal law does not require local law enforcement or other local service providers to inquire into an individual's immigration status or to respond to federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainer requests so that these principles are not inconsistent with federal law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KINGSTON, NEW YORK AS FOLLOWS:

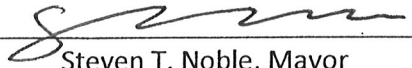
SECTION 1: that the Common Council also reaffirms the City of Kingston commitment to continue its longstanding and legal practice of not inquiring into the immigration status of individuals being provided local government services.

SECTION 2: That this resolution shall be effective immediately.

Submitted to the Mayor this 11th
day of January, 2017


Carly Winnie, City Clerk

Approved by the Mayor this 12th
day of January, 2017


Steven T. Noble, Mayor

L+Z
14.

CITY OF KINGSTON
Office of the Mayor
mayor@kingston-ny.gov

Steven T. Noble
Mayor



December 6, 2016

Honorable James L. Noble, President
Common Council
City of Kingston
Kingston, New York 12401

Dear President Noble,

While our role in local government is to focus on matters pertaining to the City of Kingston, it is important for us to prepare for how transitions in leadership at the national level may impact small cities like ours. I believe that in times of change and uncertainty, we as community leaders must be as clear as possible with our constituents about how we will serve, protect and support them.

I have been approached by the Ministers Alliance of Kingston and a number of local religious leaders, the Worker Justice Center of New York and by community members throughout Kingston, all asking for me to consider declaring the City of Kingston a "sanctuary city." While I believe these requests align with the principles and values of our community, and that more broadly we must continue to build trust and peace within city, I would like for the Council to explore these requests with me and consider preparing a memorializing resolution.

Please refer this matter to the appropriate committee and let me know when to attend. I have been in constant communication with Chief Tinti on this matter and expect that he will join me for this discussion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven T. Noble
Mayor

Holy Cross/Santa Cruz Episcopal Church

30 Pine Grave Avenue, Kingston, NY 12401 845-331-6796

November 28, 2016

Mayor Steve Noble
Office of the Mayor
Kingston City Hall
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401

Dear Mayor Noble:

As clergy leaders of the diverse religious community that is resident in Kingston, through your office, we wish to petition the Common Council to declare the City of Kingston a *Sanctuary City*.

We are aware that the governor has already declared ours a Sanctuary State, but we are also very aware that the large number of Latinos and the smaller number of Muslims who are such an important part of our common life are increasingly and reasonably concerned and frightened for their safety and security.

Residents face restrictions and deportations under current or future immigration enforcement policies, including those that may be implemented by the President-Elect.

Mr. Trump has vowed to revoke all of President Obama's executive orders, particularly those concerning immigration reform, such as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), which creates an exception from deportation orders and helps undocumented youth brought to the US as children to obtain work permits. He has also proposed to create a dedicated task force to detain and deport undocumented US residents, and to employ existing law enforcement to carry out deportations on a large scale.

Today we are confronted with a moral imperative to protect vulnerable populations in the event that forces move against them unfairly or immorally. The imperative requires that we pledge to refuse to cooperate with immoral laws, executive orders, police demands, or judicial decisions that target these members of our community, particularly those who are undocumented. It means that we refuse to report the

names or other information about our citizens, to turn them over to authorities, or otherwise aid their persecution.

According to a 2011 internal memo from the US Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), immigration officers must observe specific restrictions, such as not being able to enter places of worship, hospitals and campuses without explicit permission.

A few days ago a Latino member of one of our congregations shared a most disturbing story. Last week his nephew's child came home from school, where he is in the third grade, and told his mother that he wasn't going to return to school next day or ever again. When his mother asked why, he told her that some of his classmates had cornered him and told him that he wasn't an American and that he didn't belong here and that he should go home to his own country. The child was born in Kingston Hospital. No child should know such pain.

As religious leaders we are mindful of the power of symbolic gestures and actions and believe that declaring Kingston a *Sanctuary City* would both help to educate our populace at large relative to the destructiveness of nativist impulses and xenophobic expressions, as well as provide some measure of reassurance to sisters and brothers who are under siege.

Respectfully,

The Rev. Frank J. Alagna, Ph.D.
Holy Cross/Santa Cruz Episcopal Church

The Rev. Filomena Servellon
Holy Cross/Santa Cruz Episcopal Church

The Rev. David Jolly (in his own name)
United Methodist Church

The Rev. James Rowe
Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

The Rev. James Childs
Pointe of Praise Church

The Rev. Michelle Meech
St. John's Episcopal Church

Pastor J.B. Childs, Jr.
Pointe of Praise Church

The Rev. Justin Johnson
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

The Rev. G. Modele Clark
New Progressive Baptist Church

The Rev. Erica Baron
Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Pastor Donald Mapes
King's Fire Church

The Rev. Doris Hatcher
Riverview Missionary Baptist Church

The Rev. Kendra VanHouten
Fair Street Reformed Church

The Rev. Fate Banks Taylor
St. Mark's Chapel AME Church

The Rev. James and Joan Alley (retired)
Katsbaan Reformed Church

The Rev. Evelyn J. Clarke
New Progressive Baptist Church

The Rev. Paul D. Worthington
New Progressive Baptist Church

The Rev. Dr. Renee House
Old Dutch Church

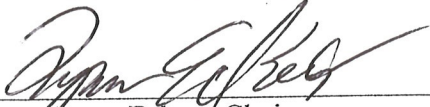

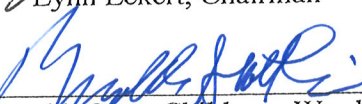

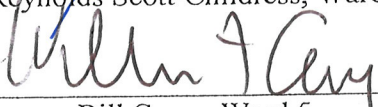

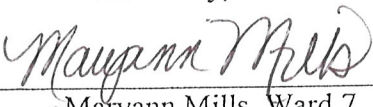



The Rev. Kevin Slusher
Reformed Church of Port Ewen

Pastor Jordan Scruggs
St. James United Methodist Church

The Rev. Rick De La Pena (in his own name)
Roman Catholic Church

LAWS & RULES
COMMITTEE REPORT

Positive Declaration of Environmental Significance:

<u>Committee Vote</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
 Lynn Eckert, Chairman		
 Reynolds Scott-Childress, Ward 3		
 Bill Carey, Ward 5		
 Maryann Mills, Ward 7		
 Deborah Brown, Ward 9		

City of Kingston, New York Common Council

Honorable James Noble, Presiding

01/01/2017-12/31/2017

Roll Call

Committee _____ Date _____

Resolution Title: Motion to Table Resolution #7

Offered By: Alderman Mills

Seconded By: Alderman Brown

Record Of Vote

<u>Alderman</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Reason</u>
<u>1. Lynn Eckert</u> (D)		X		
<u>2. Douglas Koop</u> (D)			X	
<u>3. Reynolds Scott-Childress</u> (D)		X		
<u>4. Nina Dawson</u> (D)		X		
<u>5. William Carey</u> (D)		X		
<u>6. Tony Davis</u> (D)		X		
<u>7. Mary Ann Mills</u> (D)	X			
<u>8. Steven Schabot</u> (D)		X		
<u>9. Deborah Brown</u> (R)	X			

Totals: Carried 2 Defeated 6

Carly Winnie, City Clerk

City of Kingston, New York Common Council

Honorable James Noble, Presiding

01/01/2017-12/31/2017

Roll Call

Committee Laws & Rules Date 1/10/17

Resolution Title: RESOLUTION #7 of 2017 Reaffirming Kingston as a welcoming and inclusive City

Offered By: Alderman _____

Seconded By: Alderman _____

Record Of Vote

<u>Alderman</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Reason</u>
<u>1. Lynn Eckert</u> (D)	X			
<u>2. Douglas Koop</u> (D)				
<u>3. Reynolds Scott-Childress</u> (D)	X			
<u>4. Nina Dawson</u> (D)	X			
<u>5. William Carey</u> (D)	X			
<u>6. Tony Davis</u> (D)		X		
<u>7. Mary Ann Mills</u> (D)		X		
<u>8. Steven Schabot</u> (D)	X			
<u>9. Deborah Brown</u> (R)		X		

Totals: Carried 5 Defeated 3

Carly Winnie, City Clerk