

City of East Lansing, Michigan

**RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE CITY OF EAST  
LANSING'S COMMITMENT TO THE PRESERVATION OF  
CIVIL LIBERTIES FOR ALL PERSONS WITHIN ITS  
BORDERS**

February 2017

WHEREAS, Nearly 45 years ago, the City of East Lansing adopted an ordinance that, among other prohibited discrimination, today declares discrimination based on religion or national origin to be unlawful within the borders of the City of East Lansing and defines national origin to include those who are not naturalized citizens; and,

WHEREAS, Shortly after the terrorist attack on the United States on September 11, 2001, the City of East Lansing was asked to devote its personnel to investigate Muslim citizens and residents and refused to participate in such federal investigations and activities; and

WHEREAS, In 2001, Federal policies adopted under the USA PATRIOT ACT and related executive orders unfairly impacted fundamental rights and liberties of all residents of the City of East Lansing; and,

WHEREAS, In 2004, The East Lansing City Council proclaimed by resolution its strong support for fundamental constitutional rights and its opposition to federal governmental actions that infringe on civil liberties; and,

WHEREAS, The City of East Lansing is known for its diverse population, which includes immigrants and refugees whose contributions to the community are vital to its economy, culture and civic character; and,

WHEREAS, Preservation of civil rights and liberties, regardless of immigrant or refugee status, are essential to the well-being of a democratic society; and,

WHEREAS, Governmental actions that undermine fundamental civil liberties erode United States institutions and the core values that define us as a nation, a state and a community; and,

WHEREAS, On January 25, 2017, President Trump signed executive orders implementing travel and immigration bans and constraints that targeted individuals based on their religion, country of origin, immigrant and refugee status;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in light of President Trump's executive orders, the City Council of the City of East Lansing unequivocally reaffirms the City of East Lansing's longstanding policy of refusal to participate with federal authorities in the widespread and unjust violation of the rights of individuals based on religion, national origin, immigrant or refugee status.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City of East Lansing will continue to be a safe haven for those immigrants and refugees yearning to be free and provide sanctuary to those persons.**

**BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City of East Lansing will resist every effort by the federal government to implement President Trump's executive order within its borders.**

**BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Manager shall implement this resolution and forward a copy of it to the Member of Congress representing the City of East Lansing, our State Representative and State Senator, our Governor, our U.S. Senators and President Trump.**

**BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of East Lansing pledges its unwavering commitment to the just treatment and protection of the rights of all its residents.**

---

**Mark S. Meadows**  
Mayor

---

**Marie E. Wicks**  
City Clerk

**Adopted: January 31, 2017**