

RESOLUTION NO. 01-17 (Amended)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING WEST LAFAYETTE
A MACHASEH FOR IMMIGRANTS

WHEREAS, the City of West Lafayette has a long history of defending human rights; and

WHEREAS, according to Section 24.01 of the West Lafayette City Code, the purpose of the West Lafayette Human Relations Commission is to provide all of the citizens of West Lafayette equal opportunity for employment, public accommodations, housing, and education; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 33-16 (passed by the Council of the City of West Lafayette December 5, 2016) forbids discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, disability, age, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and veteran status; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Lafayette has a special relationship to immigrants because of the very large number who come here to study, teach, do research, work and create businesses; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Lafayette annexed Purdue University effective February 13, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Purdue has the fourth-largest number of international students among U.S. public institutions of higher education according to the Institute of International Education; and

WHEREAS, the Purdue University Senate recently passed a resolution titled, "Value of Immigrants and International Students, Scholars, and Visitors to Purdue and Community" (attached)*; and

WHEREAS, no federal or state law requires local police to inquire routinely about immigration status; and

WHEREAS, local policies must not target communities based on perceived immigration status in order to support the police-community relationships built up over the years with the immigrant community, ensuring that they are comfortable reporting crime as witnesses or victims; and

WHEREAS, the intent of this Resolution shall not be interpreted as a violation of any State law or applicable Federal law nor prevent the full enforcement of the criminal laws in force in the State of Indiana; and

WHEREAS, as a general rule, it is not a crime for a removable alien to remain in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the West Lafayette Police Department is charged by State law with the enforcement of criminal laws and prevention of criminal acts; and

WHEREAS, it is the official policy of the West Lafayette Police Department (Policy 413.4) that no individual should be detained, at all, for a civil violation of federal immigration laws; and

WHEREAS, it is the official policy of the West Lafayette Police Department (Policy 413.2) that officers will recognize the dignity of all persons, regardless of their immigration status; and

WHEREAS, while recognizing the fact that undocumented immigrants who are in the United States have committed a violation of immigration law, the community of West Lafayette judges the negative human, moral, and practical costs of deportation or other major sanctions against otherwise law abiding undocumented residents of our community and country to far outweigh the legal circumstances of their arrival and continued residence; and

WHEREAS the above recitals are fully incorporated into the following resolution by reference.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The City of West Lafayette commits to working with community advocates, policy experts, and legal advocates to defend the human rights of immigrants.
2. The City of West Lafayette Police Department will continue to respond to requests from the immigrant communities to defend them against all crimes, including hate crimes, to assist people with limited language proficiency and to connect immigrants with social services.
3. The City of West Lafayette will reject any effort to create litmus tests or registries of individuals based on religion or ethnicity.
4. The West Lafayette City Council and Mayor oppose any plan that threatens to strip federal funding from cities that have adopted lawful policies that protect undocumented immigrants and other non-citizen residents from deportation.

5. No city employee or official or department or agency of the City of West Lafayette shall request information about, or investigate, the citizenship or immigration status of any person unless such inquiry or investigation is related to criminal conduct or required by state or federal law or a court order. Notwithstanding this provision, the City Attorney may investigate and inquire about citizenship or immigration status when relevant to potential or actual litigation or an administrative proceeding in which the City is or may be a party.

6. No city employee or official or department or agency of the City of West Lafayette shall condition the provision of City benefits, opportunities or services on matters related to citizenship or immigration status unless required to do so by state or federal law or by a court order.

7. Severability. Each section, subsection, sentence, clause, and phrase of this resolution is declared to be an independent section, subsection, sentence, clause, and phrase, and finding or holding of any such portion of this resolution to be unconstitutional, void, or ineffective for any cause, or reason, shall not affect any other portion of this Resolution.

INTRODUCED ON FIRST READING ON THE 6 DAY OF March, 2017.

MOTION TO ADOPT MADE BY COUNCILOR Keen, AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DeBoer.

DULY RESOLVED, PASSED, AND ADOPTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA, ON THE 6 DAY OF March, 2017, HAVING BEEN PASSED BY A VOTE OF 6 IN FAVOR AND 3 OPPOSED, THE ROLL CALL VOTE BEING:

	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Bunder	✓			
DeBoer	✓			
Dietrich	✓			
Jha		✓		
Keen		✓		
Leverenz	✓			
Sanders	✓			
Thomas	✓			
Wang		✓		


Peter Bunder, Presiding Officer

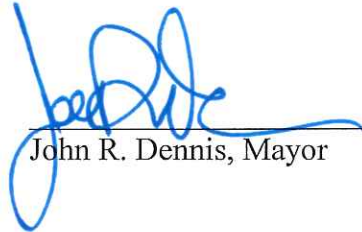
Attest:


Sana G. Booker, Clerk

PRESENTED BY ME TO THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE,
INDIANA ON THE 8 DAY OF March, 2017.


Sana G. Booker, Clerk

THIS RESOLUTION APPROVED AND SIGNED BY ME ON THE 9 DAY OF
March, 2017.


John R. Dennis, Mayor

Attest:


Sana G. Booker, Clerk

12 September 2016

Value of Immigrants and International Students, Scholars, and Visitors to Purdue and community

WHEREAS: "Purdue University is committed to maintaining a community which recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters tolerance, sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among its members; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. In pursuit of its goal of academic excellence, the University seeks to develop and nurture diversity. The University believes that diversity among its many members strengthens the institution, stimulates creativity, promotes the exchange of ideas, and enriches campus life,"*

WHEREAS: "Purdue University prohibits discrimination against any member of the University community on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, genetic information, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, or status as a veteran," *

WHEREAS: We believe immigrants and international students, scholars, and visitors enrich our campus, our community, and our state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Purdue University Senate reaffirms its commitment to the University's nondiscrimination policy and supports the rights of all people to be treated with respect and dignity.

*Purdue University Nondiscrimination Policy Statement