

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE BEND A *WELCOMING CITY* AND AFFIRM MEMBERSHIP IN THE NATIONAL WELCOMING AMERICA INITIATIVE

RECITALS

- A. Discrimination is understood to negatively impact local economic activity and the health and well-being of all our residents; and
- B. Fostering a welcoming environment and treating all individuals with compassion and respect, regardless of race, ethnicity, place of origin, or citizenship status enhances Bend's cultural fabric, economic growth, global competitiveness and overall prosperity for current and future generations; and
- C. Bend aspires to be a welcoming place where people, families and institutions thrive and the contributions of all are celebrated and valued; and
- D. Bend is committed to ensuring a welcoming and neighborly atmosphere in our community, where all people, including immigrants and refugees, are welcomed, accepted and encouraged to participate fully in civic life; and
- E. Community efforts that promote inclusivity, understanding and collaboration across cultures to learn about and appreciate everyone's unique perspectives and experience are crucial to ensuring a welcoming and thriving city; and
- F. Bend encourages business leaders, civic groups, other government agencies and community institutions, and residents to join in a community-wide effort to expand prosperity, integration and inclusion for all residents.

Based on these Findings,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEND RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council declares Bend an Inclusive and Welcoming¹ City that embraces and celebrates its immigrant and refugee residents, and welcomes and encourages their contributions to the collective prosperity and security of all current and future residents.

Section 2. To achieve this vision, and in alignment with Oregon State laws², the City will continue to refrain from the use of City funds, personnel and equipment from enforcing federal immigration laws and detaining people solely on their immigration status.

Section 3. As an initial action toward honoring the spirit and intent of this resolution, Bend is declared a Welcoming City and a member of the National Welcoming Cities and

Counties Initiative the City Council directs City staff to join as a proud member of the National *Welcoming America* Initiative.

Section 4. This resolution is effective on passage.

Adopted by a roll call vote of the Bend City Council on _____, 2017.

YES:

NO:

Casey Roats, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Robyn Christie, City Recorder

Mary A. Winters, City Attorney

¹ The Membership Commitment, along with the Membership Principles and Values, for the national network of Welcoming America [www.welcomingamerica.org] affiliates are attached.

² Oregon law, adopted nearly 30 years ago, states in part: “No law enforcement in the State of Oregon or any political subdivision of the state shall use agency moneys, equipment or personnel for the purpose of detecting or apprehending persons whose only violation of law is that they are persons of foreign citizenship present in the United States in violation of federal immigration laws.” See ORS 181A.820(1).

The Latino Community Association and Bend 2030 have joined as Welcoming Nonprofits and pledge to support and be a partner to the City of Bend’s efforts to fulfill its membership commitment.