



Legislation Text

File #: 16-0874, **Version:** 1

Resolution Affirming The City of Ann Arbor's Participation in the Welcoming Communities Campaign
Whereas, In 2015, the White House Task Force on New Americans launched the "Welcoming Communities Campaign to call on local communities "to act on a set of principles to build inclusive, welcoming communities that allow all residents to thrive and advance integration efforts in three core areas: civic, economic, and linguistic integration";

Whereas, Other Michigan communities such as Sterling Heights, Detroit, and Clinton Township participate in the Welcoming Communities campaign;

Whereas, Participants in the Welcoming Communities Campaign receive support from peer organizations, training opportunities, technical assistance, and other supports to implement the goals of the campaign;

Whereas, 17.4% of Ann Arbor residents are foreign-born;

Whereas, Immigrants have long made important contributions to and are valued members of our community;

Whereas; Improving Ann Arbor's ability to welcome refugees supports the City's sustainability framework's commitment to equity and goals of supporting an engaged community and social services;

Whereas, Individuals and faith communities across the Ann Arbor have shown their support for refugees by displaying banners and yard signs as part of the One Human Family Campaign, which also seeks to combat Islamophobia, organized the by Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County and the Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice;

Whereas, Ann Arbor City Council affirmed the goals of the Welcoming Communities Campaign; and

Whereas; UN General Assembly [resolution 55/76 <http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/55/76>](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/55/76) established June 20 as International Refugee Day, which Jewish Family Services will commemorate locally through community conversation and celebration on the theme of "Celebrating World Refugee Day through the Eyes of Children";

RESOLVED, The Ann Arbor City Council affirms its desire to participate in the Welcoming Communities Campaign and directs the Administrator to begin the application process;

RESOLVED, The Ann Arbor City Council applauds and supports the efforts of the One Human Family Campaign to create a climate of inclusion in the City of Ann Arbor;

RESOLVED, The Ann Arbor City Council thanks Jewish Family Services for their work resettling

refugees and encourages the community to participate in their World Refugee Day activities.

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Warpehoski, Krapohl, Briere, Grand, Ackerman and Mayor Taylor