

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_, Series 2017

**A RESOLUTION WELCOMING AND SUPPORTING IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES FROM ALL NATIONALITIES, RELIGIONS, AND BACKGROUNDS WITH LOUISVILLE METRO POLICIES AND PROGRAMS THAT FOSTER INCLUSION FOR ALL.**

**SPONSORED BY: COUNCILMAN DAN JOHNSON**

**WHEREAS**, Louisville Metro fosters a culture and environment that makes it a vibrant, compassionate, global city where our immigrant and refugee population can fully participate in and be integrated into the social, civic, and economic fabric of Louisville;

**WHEREAS**, nearly one in ten Louisville Metro residents are foreign born and approximately ninety languages are spoken in our public schools;

**WHEREAS**, Louisville Metro Government serves all residents and makes its services accessible to all, regardless of immigration status, and Louisville Metro agencies and departments, including law enforcement, cannot withhold services based on ancestry, race, ethnicity, national origin, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, physical or mental disability, immigration status, or religion;

**WHEREAS**, Louisville Metro benefits tremendously from the large number of diverse immigrants and refugees who contribute to the development of a culturally and economically diverse and enriched community;

**WHEREAS**, Louisville Metro is committed to recognizing the dignity of all its residents, including the right of Louisville Metro residents to live in a city that does not subject them to prejudicial treatment or discrimination;

**WHEREAS**, Louisville Metro is committed to continue building a welcoming, safe, and hate-free environment throughout the community, where all immigrants and refugees are welcomed, accepted, and integrated; and to encourage business leaders, civic groups, community institutions, and residents to join in a community-wide effort to adopt policies and practices that promote integration, inclusion, and equity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor of Louisville and Louisville Metro Council have reaffirmed the city's commitment to be a welcoming city and inclusive to all.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION I:** Louisville Metro celebrates its diversity by welcoming and supporting immigrants and refugees from all nationalities, religions, and backgrounds with policies and programs that foster inclusion for all.

**SECTION II:** Louisville Metro hereby reaffirms its commitment to continue the longstanding practice of not withholding government services based on ancestry, race, ethnicity, national origin, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, physical or mental disability, immigration status, or religion.

**SECTION III:** To encourage a climate where eligible individuals are undeterred from seeking government services, Louisville Metro Council encourages all departments and/or agencies to review and revise policies and procedures that involve collection of personal and confidential information so that (1) the department or agency only maintains information necessary to perform its government service; and (2) the department or agency does not disclose personal information unless required by law.

**SECTION VI:** Louisville Metro will continue to welcome all communities who contribute in a positive and meaningful way to the continued successes of our city and maintain the inclusiveness that enhances the quality of life for all Louisvillians.

**SECTION VII:** This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

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H. Stephen Ott  
Metro Council Clerk

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David Yates  
President of the Council

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Greg Fischer  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approval Date

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:**

Michael J. O'Connell  
Jefferson County Attorney

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

R-073-17