

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, CONDEMNING ISLAMOPHOBIA

WHEREAS, the City of Fresno acknowledges the wealth of contributions of the Muslim community in the Central Valley, and rooted here for many generations, in different capacities; as educators, developers, farmers, entrepreneurs, health care professionals, civic leaders, engineers, philanthropists, etc.; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fresno condemns hate speech, racism, and xenophobia against fellow Muslims and Islam; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fresno prides itself on its diverse citizenry of all religions, race, gender, ethnicity; and is committed to strengthen a welcoming experience for people of all backgrounds, especially fellow Muslim Americans; and

WHEREAS, Islamophobia is defined as the fear of Islam, Muslims, or anything related to the Islamic or Arab cultures and traditions; and

WHEREAS, the language of Islamophobia is extremely toxic and un-American and creates an unsafe and divisive environment for Muslim, Middle Eastern (Christians & Jews), South Asians, and others who may be perceived as being of similar descent, and these claims are completely opposite to the American values; and

WHEREAS, since September 11, 2001, Islamophobia has become the latest “hazing” technique across the United States and has created a chilling effect for Muslims, Arabs, and South Asians in their communities, work environments, and campuses; and

WHEREAS, A Gallup Study found 60% of Muslim Americans say that Muslims face prejudice from other Americans, and 48% of Muslim Americans say that they have personally faced racial or religious discrimination, which is on par with Hispanic Americans (48%), and African Americans (45%), while 54% of Arab Americans say they have experienced this type of discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fresno is no place for hateful and inflammatory rhetoric and is committed to foster an all-inclusive and safe environment that welcomes and respects all its residents/citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Fresno as follows:

1. The City of Fresno stands united to condemn all inflammatory, divisive and hate speech.
2. The City of Fresno applauds the efforts of local Muslim organizations helping educate our community and our educators to alleviate bullying and ignorance.
3. The City of Fresno urges other agencies such as the County Board of Supervisors, California State Assembly and Senate Representatives, Governor of California, and House and Senate Representatives, as well as our local school districts to also pass a similar resolution.

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF FRESNO) ss.
CITY OF FRESNO)

I, YVONNE SPENCE, City Clerk of the City of Fresno, certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Fresno, at a regular meeting held on the _____ day of _____, 2016.

AYES :
NOES :
ABSENT :
ABSTAIN :

Mayor Approval: _____, 2016
Mayor Approval/No Return: _____, 2016
Mayor Veto: _____, 2016
Council Override Vote: _____, 2016

YVONNE SPENCE, CMC
City Clerk

By: _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
DOUGLAS T. SLOAN
City Attorney

By: _____
Katie Doerr [Date]
Chief Assistant

KBD:ns [72228ns/kdb]