

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR No. 2023-_____

1 **A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY CONDEMNING THE**
2 **THREAT OR USE OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE AND PROMOTING CIVIL**
3 **DISCOURSE IN OUR COMMUNITY.**
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5
6 **WHEREAS**, The Municipality of Anchorage is committed to defending democratic
7 institutions, the integrity of our elections, and the security of people and facilities that
8 carry out the democratic process; and
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10 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality of Anchorage is committed to ending the spread of
11 hate, bigotry, and harassment based on race, color, religion, national origin,
12 ethnicity, sex, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, or any other
13 protected characteristic as defined by law, and as identified in:

- 14 • Article II, *Bill of Rights*, Section 7, of the Municipality's Home Rule Charter;
- 15 • Section 17.01 of the Municipality's Home Rule Charter,
- 16 • Anchorage Municipal Code section 3.30.011C., in the *Personnel Rules*;
- 17 • AMC Title 5, *Equal Rights*, section 5.10.010; and
- 18 • AMC Chapter 7.50, *Equal Employment Opportunity Contract Compliance*;

19 and
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21 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality of Anchorage has a public policy in Title 5 which states
22 in part "It is the express intent of this title to guarantee fair and equal treatment under
23 law to all people of the municipality, consistent with federal and state constitutional
24 freedoms and laws, including freedom of expression, freedom of association and
25 the free exercise of religion"; and
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27 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality of Anchorage wishes to affirm its commitment to the
28 well-being and safety of all of its community members and to ensure that they will
29 be protected and their rights respected; and
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31 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality of Anchorage wishes to affirm its commitment to
32 cultivating an inclusive community, including within Municipal operations and
33 institutions; and
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35 **WHEREAS**, the diversity of our community is beneficial to all within it, making us
36 stronger, more welcoming, and more resilient; and
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38 **WHEREAS**, each of our elected leaders has the ability and obligation to promote
39 inclusiveness; celebrate diversity; work to ensure equitable opportunities in all major
40 facets of society; prevent the spread of misinformation and disinformation; and reject
41 hate and bias in all forms and set a positive example for their constituents in this
42 regard; and
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1 **WHEREAS**, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) Report for 2022 on Murder and
2 Extremism in the United States states that “Domestic extremists—extremists who
3 are U.S. citizens or longtime permanent residents—regularly commit murders to
4 further their causes, using deadly force against perceived enemies. In addition,
5 extremists also often commit murders in the service of a group or gang they may
6 belong to—targeting a rival group member, for example, or even a suspected
7 informant in their own ranks”; and
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9 **WHEREAS**, the ADL found that the rate of murders by domestic extremists ranged
10 from 22 to 78 per year between 2015 and 2022; and
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12 **WHEREAS**, disinformation, misinformation, and online conspiracy theories such as
13 Q-Anon are spreading and inspiring real-world political violence; and
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15 **WHEREAS**, some members of the Anchorage Equity Committee of the Assembly,
16 a Special Assembly Committee whose members represent a variety of community
17 and faith-based groups and others offering perspectives from underrepresented
18 groups who have lived experience of systemic inequities, have reviewed and
19 support this resolution as a means to advance equitable outcomes by advising the
20 Anchorage Assembly in planning, policy formation, legislative work, budgeting and
21 programming, thereby empowering equity leaders to serve within the government
22 process; and
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24 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality of Anchorage supports the peaceful exercise of free
25 speech, free assembly, and freedom to worship safely for all people; now, therefore,
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27 **THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:**

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29 **Section 1.** That the following public policy positions are adopted for the
30 Municipality of Anchorage, and the Assembly hereby:
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- 32 1. Affirms its ongoing commitment to cultivating an inclusive, welcoming, safe,
33 and just society and culture – including within MOA operations and
34 institutions – that values the diversity of our community, works to ensure
35 equitable opportunities in all major facets of society, and celebrates both our
36 individuality and commonality.
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- 38 2. Denounces the threat, advocacy, or use of political violence or domestic
39 terrorism in any form as a means of effecting societal or political change.
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- 41 3. Denounces extremism in all its forms, as described in this resolution,
42 specifically those ideologies which promote the supremacy or inferiority of
43 any group on the basis of ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation,
44 physical ability, or national origin, and all hateful speech intended and likely
45 to incite imminent violent action in our community.
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- 47 4. Denounces extremist conspiracy theories, misinformation, and
48 disinformation designed to cultivate an alienated and mistrustful electorate,
49 undermine democratic institutions and processes, and increase the likelihood

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of political violence.

5.. Commits to fostering an environment within the MOA workplace, its operations and institutions, that does not tolerate anti-government extremist, white supremacist, racist, antisemitic, misogynist, Islamophobic, anti-LGBTQ+, ableist, and other hateful speech and actions.

6. Commits to countering hate and extremism through engagement with community leaders, governmental transparency and public information-sharing regarding efforts to fight extremism, and the investigation and prosecution of those who commit criminal acts, consistent with civil liberties protections.

7. Urges residents to join us by adopting these values in their own lives, calling attention to these harms, denouncing hate and extremism, and committing to the resolution of political disputes through an active peaceful civil discourse which acknowledges the worth of all human beings and the value of diverse viewpoints.

Section 2. That it recognizes the omission of some protected classes from the Anchorage Municipal Charter and supports efforts to bring forth a Charter amendment for the voters at an areawide municipal election to include sexual orientation, gender identity, and mental disability in the list of prohibited discrimination grounds.

Section 3. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval by the Assembly.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this _____ day of _____, 2023.

Chair of the Assembly

ATTEST:

Municipal Clerk

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