



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.

For the meeting of: March 21, 2017

Date: March 16, 2017
To: Board of Supervisors
From: Supervisor Virginia Bass
Subject: Potential Civil Rights and Diversity Resolution

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors review information from various sources about a county resolution on commitment to civil rights and diversity in Humboldt County.

SOURCE OF FUNDING: n/a

DISCUSSION: Through research and conversations with county Supervisors around the state and the nation, it is apparent that many local municipalities are passing resolutions recognizing the value of all citizens who live, work, and make valuable contributions in their communities. Supervisor Bass would like to discuss the possibility of such a resolution in Humboldt County potentially modeled after the resolution recently passed in Sonoma County.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

Prepared by Ana Hartwell

Signature Virginia Bass

REVIEW: Auditor County Counsel Human Resources Other

TYPE OF ITEM:
Consent
Departmental
Public Hearing
X Other Board Initiated

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Upon motion of Supervisor Seconded by Supervisor

Ayes
Nays
Abstain
Absent

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.

Meeting of:

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

Dated:

By:

Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: None

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: The Board of Supervisors could decide to take no action or create a resolution.

ATTACHMENTS: Sonoma County Resolution  
Humboldt County Sheriff's statement dated March 14, 2017



County of Sonoma  
State of California

Date: February 7, 2017

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California,  
Affirming the County's Commitment To Diversity And To Safeguarding The Civil Rights, Safety  
And Dignity Of All Our Residents.**

**Whereas**, the County of Sonoma ("County") is home to persons of diverse racial, ethnic and national backgrounds, including a large immigrant population, with varied cultures, religions, orientations, abilities and viewpoints; and

**Whereas**, the County believes that diversity of backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences of the American people makes our nation, our communities, and our economy richer and stronger; and

**Whereas**, recent activities, including executive orders signed by the new federal administration, have spurred a sense of uncertainty and fear among many communities in Sonoma County, throughout our State and across the Nation; and

**Whereas**, the County respects, upholds, and values equal protection and equal treatment for all of our residents, regardless of immigration status; and

**Whereas**, the County assures its vulnerable communities that the County supports them, will strive to maintain and improve their quality of life, and will not tolerate acts of hate, discrimination, bullying, or harassment; and

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved** that the Board of Supervisors commits to:

1. Providing essential services to all County residents regardless of immigration status; and
2. Developing solutions to ensure respect for the rights of all residents and to take actions to ensure the family unity, community security, dignity and due process for all residents of Sonoma County.

Posted on: March 14, 2017

## Sheriff's Office and Immigration Enforcement

In recent weeks there have been several inquiries regarding the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office policy regarding immigration enforcement and cooperation with the Department of Homeland Security; US Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The Sheriff's Office recognizes that Executive Orders from President Trump and immigration laws are a complex and sensitive matter and this has been highlighted in recent weeks. I acknowledge the necessity of communicating with all federal law enforcement regarding dangerous criminals booked into county jails. This need arises from a desire to protect all members of our community from those who pose a credible public safety threat, not from a desire to enforce immigration law on a day-to-day basis. As the Sheriff of Humboldt County, I serve to protect the public safety above all else. The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office mission is to provide competent, effective and responsive public safety services to the people of this community. We recognize our responsibility to maintain order, while affording dignity and respect to all persons. We hold ourselves to the highest standards of professional and ethical conduct while serving the people of Humboldt County. Enforcement of immigration laws is not the job of the Sheriff and my office does not and will not conduct proactive or reactive immigration enforcement duties in this community. Our #1 priority is to investigate crime and make our community safe. My office would like to encourage the community to continue to report crimes and to seek protection and assistance from the Sheriff's Office, regardless of their immigration status.

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Mike  
Downey  
  
Sheriff