A SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION

Opposing discrimination in all its forms and affirming Milwaukee County’s commitment to value all people equally regardless of race, sex, class, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, age, ancestry or nationality, ethnicity, political or religious affiliation, or creed

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2017, Donald Trump was inaugurated as the 45th President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, President Trump has made numerous deplorable statements that devalue racial and religious minorities, demean women, dishonor our armed forces, ignore science, threaten foreign relations, and disregard the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, President Trump on January 25th issued Executive Orders in regard to refugee and immigrant matters, that will suspend the entire U.S. refugee resettlement program for 120 days, ban the arrival of Syrian refugees indefinitely, suspend travel from certain majority Muslim countries, and slash overall refugee admissions by at least 50 percent; and

WHEREAS, President Trump’s January 25th Executive Order lays the foundation of a mass deportation program through new immigration enforcement priorities that make all undocumented immigrants priorities for removal; and

WHEREAS, President Trump’s January 25th Executive Order on immigration intends to engage “local officials, for the purpose of preparing to enter into agreements under section 287(g) in order “to authorize state and local law enforcement officials, to perform the functions of immigration;” and

WHEREAS, additionally the 287(g) program, which allows Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to delegate immigration enforcement to partners in state and local agencies, has also been found to create “discriminatory policing practices” by the Federal Justice Department; and

WHEREAS, President Trump has stated his intention to revive the Secure Communities Program (SCP) which was designed to dramatically increase the involvement of local law enforcement officials in immigration enforcement, diverting local resources and creating fear of law enforcement, to the detriment of public safety; and
WHEREAS, SCP faced strong criticism for allowing officers to racially profile minorities, was found to violate Fourth Amendment rights by a federal judge, and needlessly broke up families by transferring people to ICE, regardless of their innocence or conviction for any crime; and

WHEREAS, following federal court orders declaring ICE detainer requests unconstitutional under the 4th Amendment, hundreds of cities and counties mandated that their local law enforcement agencies only cooperate with ICE detainer or notification requests if the request was accompanied by a judge’s warrant; and

WHEREAS, President Trump’s sweeping new immigration enforcement priorities make millions of people a priority for removal based solely on the judgment of a low-level Immigration Officer, violating people’s constitutional rights to due process and a fair trial; as well as people who have committed a minor crime such as driving without a license or speeding, no matter if the offense was decades ago, and regardless of the person’s ties to family and community; and

WHEREAS, in 2012 the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors approved a policy, File No. 12-135, that specified when ICE detainer requests would be honored, emphasizing that people who do not represent a threat to public safety should not be targeted, and requested that the Office of the Sheriff abide by the policy; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that no matter the threats made by President Trump, Milwaukee County will prioritize keeping families together and will remain a safe place for immigrants who contribute to the richness and vibrancy of the community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Milwaukee County will continue to work for the realization of women’s rights, whether in healthcare, the workplace, or any other area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Milwaukee County will ensure young girls grow up with role models to show them that opportunities abound and their potential is unlimited; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Milwaukee County banned discrimination based on gender identity in 2014, issued the first same-sex marriage licenses in Wisconsin, and continues to work toward equal rights for all Milwaukee County residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that to all LGBTQ people in Milwaukee County and across the United States, who feel scared, bullied, or alone: Milwaukee County will never stop fighting for you and your rights; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Milwaukee County believes in this nation’s founding principle of religious freedom, the county will not ban people for their faith; and
declares support for refugee families who have built their lives in Milwaukee County and now cannot be reunited with loved ones, and condemn the arbitrary and discriminatory changes to refugee policy that go against our nation’s principles; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Black Lives Matter in Milwaukee County, even if they may not in Trump's White House; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Milwaukee County, guided by President Obama’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing, will continue to advocate for reforms in local law enforcement and work to rebuild trust between police and communities of color so all citizens feel safe in their neighborhoods; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that climate change is not a hoax, and in this county, with its Emerald Necklace of parks, parkways, and urban waterways, and bordered by the beautiful shores of Lake Michigan, science matters, and the county will continue our work to protect its natural resources for future generations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Milwaukee County reaffirms its commitment in the 2017 Adopted Milwaukee County Budget by offering a sustainable Growing Opportunities (GO) Pass, which increases the independence of older adults and people with disabilities, as well as modernizing transit with projects such as Bus Rapid Transit; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Milwaukee County is the driving economic engine of Wisconsin and we will not be bullied by threats to revoke our federal funding, nor will we sacrifice our values or members of our community for federal dollars; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Milwaukee County condemns all hate crimes and hate speech perpetrated in this election’s wake; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Board urges the United States Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to add courts to its sensitive locations policies, and encourages the Chief Judge of Milwaukee County to request that ICE agents not carry out enforcement actions in or around courthouse grounds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Board opposes the use of Section 287(g) Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) agreements, and urges the Office of the Sheriff to refuse to enter into Section 287(g) agreements with ICE; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the policy adopted by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors in 2012 regarding detainer requests from ICE remains in full
effect, and confirms that Milwaukee County will not honor detainer requests that are not
accompanied by a federal judge’s court order or warrant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon adoption, the Milwaukee County Office
of Government Affairs is authorized and requested to deliver a copy of this resolution to
the Milwaukee County Sheriff, the Milwaukee County Chief Judge, the U.S. Department
of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Milwaukee County Congressional
Delegation, and the President of the United States.