

41640 Gladys Ct.  
Homer, AK 99603

February 22, 2017

Dear Council Members,

RE: RESOLUTION 17-019 OF THE CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA: stating that the City of Homer adheres to the principle of inclusion and herein committing this city to resisting efforts to divide this community with regard to race, religion, ethnicity, gender, national origin, physical capabilities, or sexual orientation regardless of the origin of those efforts, including from local, state or federal agencies.

There are some ideals which we can all agree upon.

First, this Resolution reaffirms adherence to the U.S. and Alaska Constitutions. It states that Homer will abide by existing laws: City, State, and Federal. In addition it reaffirms the importance of due process which ensures the rights and equality of our citizens. Due process means people may not lose life, liberty or property without fair procedures--certain steps being taken as stated in the US Constitution in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Amendments. Our Constitutions and laws are important and due process matters a great deal.

Second, all religions and belief systems I have ever read about teach some form of the Golden Rule: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. The main message in each religion is the same. We all want to be treated kindly and fairly, to feel safe, and to live in peace. All people want a peaceful, law abiding, safe place to live and many, to raise their families.

Finally, we can agree that Homer is an extraordinary place to call home! A beautiful natural setting and a wonderful, diverse community of people who show that they care about other people and who are compassionate and helpful to others whenever the need arises. We are thankful for our wonderful home.

What we as a community believe matters very much to those of us who live here. I believe this Resolution should be approved. Words do matter.

Lani Raymond