

I would like to quietly and firmly speak in support of Resolution 17-019.

As a lawyer, I would note that most of it merely re-affirms the law.

It: 1) notes the right to privacy that undoubtedly exists; 2) condemns profiling¹; 3) states that Homer will cooperate with the Federal Government under the rule of law; 4) that Homer will support its police; 5) that we condemn hate towards our community members;² and 6) that we will provide a safety net to the weak and vulnerable.

So your resolution is really not stating anything controversial. It merely reaffirms the law and the rule-of-law. And it invites us to talk sanely.

In these turbulent times, isn't it good to do so?

When I read of the proposed protection for the vulnerable, I recalled the Book of Luke, "when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind."

I ask that you support the proposed resolution. Thank you.

---Andrew Haas
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¹ The US Supreme Court has concluded that the Equal Protection clause of the US Constitution prohibits profiling based upon race, ethnic appearance, or guilt-neutral attributes. *See Illinois v. Wardlow*, 528 U.S. 119 (2000). Profiling is "an anathema to our criminal justice system".

² Alaska Statute 12.55.155 increases punishment for criminal convictions on many grounds, including 1) when the victim is "particularly vulnerable" and 2) when the crime is committed because of the victim's "race, sex, color, creed, physical or mental disability, ancestry, or national origin."