

Respectfully submitted on 6/6/2017 to the Town Council by Cape Diversity Coalition

RESOLUTION WELCOMING ALL PEOPLE INTO OUR COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the United States of America is a country that has always prided itself on being welcoming of immigrants persecuted in other lands seeking religious and civil liberty;

WHEREAS, native and foreign-born residents of many faiths and cultures have richly contributed to the quality of life in Cape Elizabeth;

WHEREAS, Cape Elizabeth prides itself on being a community fostering neither fear nor division, but instead respect and tolerance of difference;

WHEREAS, we, the elected officials of Cape Elizabeth, have an important leadership role in representing our Town's collective values against discrimination, violence, and hate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Town of Cape Elizabeth:

1. Welcomes residents of all cultures, celebrates the benefits of a pluralistic society, and respects the right of every person or group to live and practice their self-determined identity, culture, and faith without fear;
2. Condemns actions of hate, violence, or discrimination directed against any citizen or group, including but not limited to immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and any persons unjustly or unfairly treated due to their religion, ethnicity, race, class, nationality, country of origin, age, ability, sexuality, or gender;
3. Affirms that anyone targeted on the basis of such differences should be able to turn to the Town's officials and fellow citizens without fear of discrimination;
4. Encourages forums and other opportunities where civil and respectful dialogue may take place to promote better understanding and mutual appreciation among our residents.