

RESOLUTION

**By Fletcher, Reich, Gordon, Cunningham, Ellison, Warsame,
Goodman, Jenkins, Cano, Bender, Schroeder, Johnson, and Palmisano**

Supporting the resettlement of refugees to the City of Minneapolis.

Whereas, more than 70.8 million displaced people have been forced from their homes, a larger number than at any time in recorded history, including over 25 million refugees; and

Whereas, refugees are persons forced to flee their countries due to persecution or well-founded fear of persecution on the basis of their race, religion, nationality political opinion or membership in a particular social group; and

Whereas, refugees are among the most vetted individuals to enter the United States, are not permitted to travel to the United States until all security screenings have been successfully completed and the individual is found admissible under United States immigration law; and

Whereas, resettlement to the United States is available only to those who demonstrate the greatest and most immediate need for protection—such as unaccompanied or other at-risk children, female-headed households, victims of torture, the physically disabled, and members of minority groups that are experiencing oppression in their home countries and takes place after eligible refugees undergo a rigorous selection, security vetting and medical screening process; and

Whereas, the state of Minnesota and the city of Minneapolis are home to some of the largest and most diverse populations of refugees and immigrants in the United States, adding to the economic strength and cultural richness of our community; and

Whereas, December 18 is International Migrants Day as designated by the United Nations; and

Whereas, the Trump administration has decreased the number of refugees welcomed to the United States each year during this Presidency, and in 2020 his administration has announced that the refugee limit will be capped at 18,000 people, the lowest refugee ceiling since the Refugee Program's creation in 1980; and

Whereas, President Trump issued Executive Order 13888, "Enhancing State and Local Involvement in Refugee Resettlement," which, for the first time, instructs the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to seek written consent from state and local governments, before they can accept refugees in their jurisdictions; and

Whereas, without accepting the validity of Executive Order 13888, it is important for the City of Minneapolis to affirm its commitment to welcoming refugees and its opposition to the Trump Administration's drastic cuts on the number of refugees admitted to the United States;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the Mayor and City Council do hereby reaffirm the City's status as a Welcoming City, and a city that strongly supports resettling refugees without regard to race, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, nationality, or country of origin.

Be It Further Resolved that the City of Minneapolis hereby pledges to continue to work diligently with resettlement organizations to accept refugees into the City and to improve refugee integration.

Be It Further Resolved that the Mayor and City Council call upon President Trump to significantly increase the United States Refugee Resettlement Cap for 2020, and hereby direct the City Clerk to send certified copies of this resolution to the President of the United States and the members of the federal delegation representing the State of Minnesota to the United States Congress to express the City's strong support for the ongoing resettlement of refugees.