

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A JUST AND WELCOMING COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution, the Equal Protection Clause, guarantees to all persons the "equal protection of the laws."

WHEREAS, the City Council has been asked to consider a resolution recommending a moratorium on refugee resettlement in the City of St. Cloud; and

WHEREAS, the Refugee Act of 1980 (8 U.S.C. §1522) directs Federal Agencies to develop and implement policies and strategies for the placement and resettlement of refugees within the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Refugee Act of 1980 does not create a mandate for local city and county governments; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 of the United States Constitution, Congress has the exclusive power to set national immigration policy including the placement and relocation of refugees.

WHEREAS, State and County Governments are responsible for the funding, management and delivery of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Cloud provides core municipal services to the citizens of St. Cloud including police and fire protection, sanitary sewer and water services, parks and recreation opportunities and transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the primary placement and resettlement of approximately 225 refugees in the City of St. Cloud is anticipated in 2018; and

WHEREAS, The City of St. Cloud has a resident population of approximately 69,071, and as a regional center serves a daytime population in excess of 160,000; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Cloud's street and utility infrastructure, organizational structure and workforce is designed to support the demands of a regional center; and

WHEREAS, since 2010 the property tax rate and level of expenditures in the City of St. Cloud has remained flat despite a growth in our resident population of approximately 3,200; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA:

1. That the City of St. Cloud is welcoming to all residents without regard to age, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, race, ethnicity, religion, or country of origin, and we renew our commitment to foster a community in which all people have the right to pursue life, liberty and happiness; and
2. That the City of St. Cloud has the capacity to provide municipal services to the aforementioned prospective new residents without an impact on the City budget or quality of life.

Adopted this 23rd day of October 2017.