

A RESOLUTION TO DEFEND THE BILL OF RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

WHEREAS, the City of Saint Louis has a long and proud tradition of upholding the free exercise and enjoyment of the inalienable rights guaranteed to all persons by our constitutions and laws of the United States, the State of Missouri, and the City of St. Louis: and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis greatly benefits from the many contributions of its highly diverse population, including students, working people, and non-citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis affirms its strong opposition to terrorism, but also affirms that any efforts to end terrorism not be waged at the expense of essential civil rights and liberties of the people of St. Louis, the State of Missouri and the United States; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act that expand the authority of the federal government to detain and investigate citizens and non-citizens and engage in the electronic surveillance of citizens and non-citizens may threaten civil rights and liberties guaranteed under the United States Constitution;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS remains firmly committed to the protection of civil rights and civil liberties for all people; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of St. Louis will completely avoid discrimination in every function of city government, and vigorously uphold the constitutionally protected rights of all persons to peacefully protest and express their political views without any form of governmental interference; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, and is the policy of the City of St. Louis, that:

- 1) Employees of the City of St. Louis and its departments shall refrain from:
 - a) profiling based on race, ethnicity, citizenship, religion, or political values;
 - b) denying any city service on the basis of citizenship; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the St. Louis Board of Aldermen encourages the St. Louis Board of Police Commissioners and the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department to adopt and/or follow policies that prohibit its employees from:

- 1) stopping, detaining or arresting anybody based solely upon their immigration status;
- 2) profiling based on race, ethnicity, citizenship, religion, or political values;
- 3) without having or being provided evidence showing a reasonable suspicion of criminal activity:
 - a) assisting with investigations, interrogations, or arrest procedures, whether they be public or clandestine; and
 - b) recording, filing, collecting, maintaining or sharing information about the political, religious, or social views, associations or activities of any

- individual, group or business association, even if authorized by federal law enforcement. This includes but is not limited to library lending and research, book and video store sales and/or rentals, and educational records; and
- c) engaging in or assisting federal or state enforcement officers in:
 - i) any and all forms of surveillance of individual or group activities protected by the First Amendment; such activities include but are not limited to political advocacy and practicing religion; and
 - ii) utilizing race, religion, ethnicity or national origin as a factor in selecting which individuals to subject to forms of investigation.
 - d) the execution of a search warrant to any resident of the City of St. Louis without providing advance or simultaneous notice, and refrain from participating in a joint search with any law enforcement agency absent assurances that such notice will be provided to such individuals during the search; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the St. Louis Board of Aldermen call on our United States Representative and Senators to monitor the implementation of the USA PATRIOT Act and the Orders in furtherance thereof and actively work for the repeal or revision of only those sections in the Act and those Orders that violate fundamental rights and liberties as stated in the United States Constitution and its Amendments by sending a copy of this resolution to the Missouri delegation to Congress.