



### **REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR AND THE VALUE OF DIVERSITY**

WHEREAS, the City of Bangor has a long history of supporting diversity and inclusiveness; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bangor has recognized the Bangor Chinese School, proclaimed World Aids Day, recognized National Hispanic Heritage Month, Holocaust Days of Remembrance, and taken a position in favor of marriage equality, to mention but a few.

WHEREAS, the City of Bangor through these actions has encouraged people to ensure that policies and programs exist to protect the rights of the people, reminded people that all must remain vigilant against bigotry and tyranny, recognized the contributions of immigrants, affirmed its opposition to discrimination based on sexual orientation, promoted equality under the law for all people, and celebrated the diversity of its citizens.

WHEREAS, the City of Bangor Police Department, though its policies, acknowledge that it is neither necessary nor appropriate to routinely inquire as to the immigration status of persons that they encounter in order to serve and protect the citizens of Bangor; and

WHEREAS, in a time that many people, especially immigrants and Muslims, are feeling particularly fearful and vulnerable it is important for the City of Bangor to reaffirm its support for diversity, inclusion, and acceptance of all; and

WHEREAS, in such times it is appropriate for the City Council of the City of Bangor to remind all of the importance of equality for all and discrimination against none; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bangor has been committed to upholding the rights of, ensuring the safety of, and valuing all of peoples; and

WHEREAS, all people are entitled to be treated fairly and with respect regardless of race, color, religion, sex, ethnicity, immigration status, age, disability, or sexual identity; and

WHEREAS, no person in the City of Bangor should feel intimidated or fearful in their interactions with any City official, employee, or agency.

NOW THEREFORE I, Joseph M. Baldacci, Mayor of the City of Bangor, on behalf of the City Council do hereby proclaim that the City of Bangor shall remain vigilant against bigotry, continue to oppose discrimination in any form and to work to provide equality for all, celebrate our diversity, and actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of equality and justice,

Given this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017.

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Joseph M. Baldacci, Mayor