



CITY OF ALLENTOWN

No. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION

R-17

*Introduced by City Council on February 5, 2025*

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Allentown City Council recognizes the primary mission of the Allentown Police Force is to keep our citizens safe, we support the dignity and worth of every human being, that we are and will further become a **WELCOMING CITY**, focusing on ensuring that all residents, including immigrants, can fully participate in civic life, the economy, access to education and local services, participate in community institutions, give feedback to government officials, and develop trusting relationships with local safety services such as law enforcement and emergency response and that everyone needs to get away from extremism and remember this Country has a fundamental uniqueness, we are all basically immigrants, and we migrated here because we wanted opportunity and to call ourselves Americans, and this is something we should all be celebrating together.

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***Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That***

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Government, specifically Congress, has broad power to pass immigration law as relates to the entry and unlawful presence of individuals in the United States; and the Secretary of Homeland Security oversees the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations division as an enforcement mechanism; and

**WHEREAS**, the State and County and law enforcement are separate agents, apart from federal law enforcement, that, in part, deal with warrants issued by federal authorities and hold individuals in compliance with warrants issued under federal law; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Lehigh and Northampton are on record indicating they will comply with** all applicable federal and state laws relating to issues implicated by the presence of undocumented persons; and (Morning Call, **As Allentown debates 'welcoming city' designation, Lehigh, Northampton fight 'sanctuary county' label**, January 24, 2025)

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of Allentown and the administration of Mayor Tuerk hereby go on record that the administration will also comply with all federal and state laws, but note the City of Allentown and its police department is separate and distinct from federal, state and county authorities; and

**WHEREAS**, Allentown City Council recognizes inflammatory and hyperbolic statements have stoked fear and created an unsettling atmosphere among our residents.

**NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Allentown City Council ensures the residents that the primary mission of the Allentown Police Department will be to keep the residents of the City of Allentown safe and secure.

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT** Allentown City Council recognizes the dignity and worth of every human being, and will make all necessary action to become a **WELCOMING CITY**, focusing on ensuring that all residents, including immigrants, can fully participate in civic life, the economy, access education and local services, participate in community institutions, give feedback to government officials, and develop trusting relationships with local safety services such as law enforcement and emergency response.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** with the message that everyone needs to get away politicking off the margins (references to criminality and race-baiting) and remember this Country has a fundamental uniqueness, we are all basically immigrants, and we migrated here because we wanted opportunity, we wanted to be here and call ourselves Americans, and this is something we should all celebrate together.