

CITY OF FERNDALE

RESOLUTION

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TO OPPOSE THE BALLOT PROPOSAL TO BAN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Moved by Councilman Galloway, supported unanimously, to adopt the following Resolution:

Many decisions of the United States Supreme Court have ruled that Affirmative Action is necessary and legitimate for realizing true democracy in our great nation, which is growing increasingly diverse and multicultural; and

The campaign to amend Michigan's Constitution would outlaw Affirmative Action and nullify the Supreme Court's legacy of supporting Affirmative Action; and

The proposed constitutional amendment would remove from local governments, including K-12 education systems and public universities, their ability to control their own policies, processes, and practices by eliminating the ability to consider race, color, gender, ethnicity or national origin in the areas of personnel hiring, education, contracting and admissions; and

The Ferndale City Council has long recognized that the diversity of its citizens is one of its most valuable assets and further recognizes that it must be allowed to continually review and improve its processes to increase diversity among its workforce and contractors to better reflect the composition of the City and better serve its residents; and

The "Michigan Civil Rights Initiative" is certain to have broad and far reaching negative consequences by irreparably harming the ability of all Michigan residents to enjoy a fair chance in education and employment; and

The proposed constitutional amendment would remove the ability of locally elected officials to bring about diversity within the operations of local government by violating the fundamental principle of local control as embodied in the Home Rule Cities Act, which seeks to ensure that each city is allowed to determine how best to serve its residents; and

Numerous civic organizations, labor unions, business groups, educational institutions, persons from all political parties, religious, ethnic, and women's organizations oppose the adoption of this amendment; and

The campaign being waged to promote this amendment will, if successful, reverse many of the advancements that have been made in race, color, gender, ethnic and national origin equality to date.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ferndale City Council reaffirms its support for diversity and affirmative action programs as well as the principle of local control; and

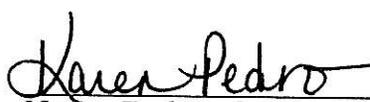
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ferndale City Council goes on record as opposing the "Michigan Civil Rights Amendment" to the Michigan Constitution since it in no way furthers the civil rights of Michigan citizens and instead is completely contrary to the promotion and continuance of civil rights in this state; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we wish to encourage our citizens as well as our citizen organizations to become informed and educate themselves on this important issue and to actively participate in efforts to defeat this proposal; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Granholm, each and every member of the Michigan State Legislature, Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, and governing body of all municipalities in Oakland County.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

I, Karen Pedro, City Clerk of Ferndale, certify that this is a true and compared copy of a Resolution duly made and passed by the Ferndale City Council at a meeting held July 24, 2006.


 Karen Pedro, City Clerk