

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT IN THE CITY OF
ALEXANDRIA
RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, we are witnessing an unprecedented level of human mobility and displacement; and

WHEREAS, there are more refugees in the world today than at any time since World War II and more than half of the world's refugees are children; and

WHEREAS, refugees are fleeing armed conflict and human rights abuses in Africa, the Middle East, Central/Southeast Asia, Central America and other regions; and

WHEREAS, refugees are the most vetted individuals to enter the United States, are not permitted to travel to the United States until all security screenings have been successfully completed and the individual is found admissible under United States immigration law; and

WHEREAS, The City of Alexandria has a long history of partnership with non-profit agencies, public-sector partners, and welcoming residents to resettle refugees in our community; and

WHEREAS, although their treatment is governed by separate legal frameworks, refugees have the same universal human rights and fundamental freedoms as all peoples; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria is a welcoming, inclusive and diverse community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria is committed to combating xenophobia, racism and discrimination against refugees; and

WHEREAS, resettled refugees have a positive social and economic impact on the communities where they settle, and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States recently promulgated Executive Order 13888 "Enhancing State and Local Involvement in Refugee Resettlement"; and

WHEREAS, this Executive Order instructs the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to seek consent from local and state authorities prior to continuing ongoing refugee resettlement activities; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT, RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA
THAT THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA:**

1. Affirms our support for the resettlement of refugees no matter their religion, race, nationality or country of origin, in the City of Alexandria.
2. Reaffirms the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and commits to protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all refugees.
3. Encourages other Virginia and Washington Metropolitan Area communities to join with the City in supporting a stronger national effort to resettle the most vulnerable refugees.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 22nd day of October 2019.

ADOPTED:

JUSTIN WILSON, MAYOR
On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, City Clerk