

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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**RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISLAMOPHOBIA AND SUPPORTING
THE INALIENABLE HUMAN RIGHTS OF RESIDENTS OF THE MUSLIM
FAITH**

WHEREAS, Islamophobia is the unfounded fear, hatred of, or prejudice against Islam and Muslims. Members of the Islamic community are threatened nationwide by Islamophobia, which includes hate crimes, intolerant speech, injustices, shunning, fear-mongering, and other threats to safety, security, and liberty; and

WHEREAS, San Mateo County is home to thousands of members of the Islamic faith among a diverse population with many ethnic backgrounds and a rich variety of religious traditions; and

WHEREAS, recent research in 2021 has shown that American Muslims are two times more likely to attempt suicide when compared to other groups, and researchers relate such high suicide attempt rate to two factors: religious discrimination and community stigma — both of which act as a barrier for Muslim American communities from seeking mental health care; and

WHEREAS, Islamophobia results in painful consequences, and can lead to continued discrimination and hate-based violence against Muslims (e.g., terror attack at a masjid/mosque). Muslim children and adults can experience anxiety, fear, worry, and confusion as a result of Islamophobic actions that are committed against them, their families, and/ or members of their community; and

WHEREAS, San Mateo County's Islamic societies, organizations, places of worship, and communities enrich and benefit the spiritual, moral, and cultural life of our overall community; and

WHEREAS, Muslim lives matter as well as the lives of Zoroastrian, Jewish, Buddhist, Hindu, Christian, Sikh, Jain, Druze, and Baha'i people, as do those of other religious faiths and of no faith at all; and

WHEREAS, like all members of the human family, all residents of San Mateo County are born free and equal in dignity and rights, and being endowed with reason and conscience, should act towards one another in a spirit of caring brotherhood and sisterhood.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County condemns Islamophobia and declare its commitment to fostering friendly relations with our Muslim neighbors, its recognition of the many contributions of our Muslim residents to the rich social, economic, and intellectual fabric of our County, and stands to oppose any expression of bigotry toward Muslims with the same full moral, legal, and practical force it provides all people in San Mateo County.

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