

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF FULTON

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS,
GEORGIA, SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING THE GEORGIA GENERAL
ASSEMBLY TO ENACT STATEWIDE LEGISLATION MAKING IT CLEAR THAT
GEORGIANS WILL NOT TOLERATE HATE OR BIAS-MOTIVATED VIOLENCE**

WHEREAS, hate or bias-motivated crimes terrorize individual victims and their families, institutions and businesses; and

WHEREAS, current events demonstrate that hate or bias-motivated crimes can have far reaching effects on large segments of the communities in which they take place; and

WHEREAS, hate or bias-motivated crimes are more than acts of violence and destruction, they are attacks on the very values which are pillars of communities in the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, effective response to hate or bias-motivated incidents and crimes not only brings justice to victims and their communities, but it also strengthens the relationship between law enforcement and the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, forty-six (46) states and the District of Columbia have enacted legislation criminalizing various types of bias-motivated violence or intimidation; and

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has not yet enacted such legislation; and

WHEREAS, on July 16, 2019 the City of Sandy Springs (City) adopted an ordinance to provide for enhanced penalties for certain code violations evidencing hate or bias motivations; and

WHEREAS, the City is inclusive of all, irrespective of (and without limitation of) race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or physical or mental disability; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of Sandy Springs hold that the diversity that exists within our community should be embraced, and that the City is more vibrant and stronger because of the diversity of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the City Council reject hate in all its forms that comes as a result of expressions of hate; and

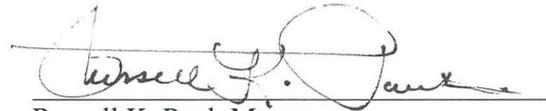
WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council desire the Georgia General Assembly to join the majority of other states and enact legislation in the upcoming legislative session to make it clear that Georgians will not tolerate hate or bias-motivated violence; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia, support and encourage enactment of statewide legislation making it clear that Georgians will not tolerate hate or bias-motivated violence.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia, authorize and direct appropriate City officials to take such steps as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate the intent of this Resolution, including communication of its position to members of the Georgia General Assembly and the general public.

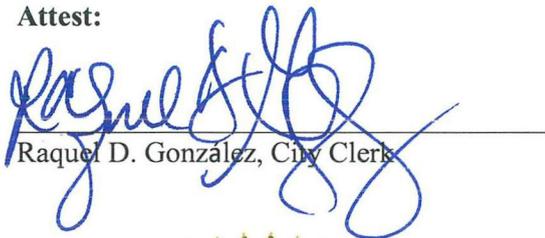
RESOLVED this 16th day of June, 2020.

Approved:



Russell K. Paul, Mayor

Attest:


Raquel D. Gonzalez, City Clerk