

ADDRESSING NEO-NAZI AND WHITE NATIONALIST HATE ORGANIZATIONS.

WHEREAS, WHITE NATIONALIST ORGANIZATIONS IN OUR COUNTRY HAVE CONSISTENTLY PROMOTED VALUES THAT ARE OVERTLY RACIST, ANTI-SEMITIC, AND ANTI-IMMIGRANT, AND THESE POISONOUS IDEOLOGIES CONTINUE TO PROMOTE HATRED, BIGOTRY, AND VIOLENCE SPECIFICALLY AGAINST INDIVIDUALS SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF THEIR RACE, ETHNICITY, RELIGION, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, AND IMMIGRATION STATUS; AND

WHEREAS, TODAY, WHITE NATIONALISM AND NEO-NAZISM REMAIN VERY REAL THREATS TO THE VALUES FOR WHICH THE COMMONWEALTH STANDS, AND THEIR REINVENTION AS THE "ALT-RIGHT", SHOULD NOT MITIGATE THEIR HATEFUL IDEOLOGIES; AND

WHEREAS, WHILE FREE SPEECH IS A BEDROCK VALUE FOR THE CITIZENS IN OUR COMMONWEALTH AND COUNTRY, WHITE NATIONALIST AND NEO-NAZI GROUPS PROMOTE A MESSAGE THAT IS THE ANTITHESIS OF MASSACHUSETTS' DEDICATION TO CIVIL RIGHTS FOR ALL, AND IS IN IRRECONCILABLE CONFLICT WITH OUR FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES OF LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL; AND

WHEREAS, WHITE NATIONALISM AND NEO-NAZISM ARE CONTINUING TO GROW AS MENACES TO SOCIETAL ORDER AS THEY SEEK TO REIGNITE SOCIAL ANIMOSITIES, REVERSE IMPROVEMENTS IN RACE RELATIONS, DIVIDE THE NATION, AND FOMENT HATRED, CLASSISM, AND ETHNIC ERADICATION; AND

WHEREAS, THE WHITE NATIONALIST AND NEO-NAZI MESSAGE OF RACIAL AND SOCIAL INTOLERANCE HAS LED TO SENSELESS ACTS OF VIOLENCE THAT CONTINUE TO TERRORIZE MEMBERS OF ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, THAT WE STRONGLY DENOUNCE AND OPPOSE THE TOTALITARIAN IMPULSES, VIOLENCE, XENOPHOBIC BIASES, AND BIGOTED IDEOLOGIES THAT ARE PROMOTED BY WHITE NATIONALISTS AND NEO-NAZIS; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT WE URGE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS AT EVERY LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT TO CONDEMN WHITE NATIONALIST AND NEO-NAZI IDEOLOGY, TO VIGOROUSLY PURSUE JUSTICE IN RESPONSE TO HATE-FUELED VIOLENCE AND WORK TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF THE MARGINALIZED AND TARGETED COMMUNITIES; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION BE FORWARDED TO THE MAYOR OF BOSTON, THE MAYOR OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA AND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, ADOPTED, AUGUST 17, 2017.

ROBERT A. DeLEO
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

CLERK OF THE HOUSE

SENATE, ADOPTED IN CONCURRENCE, AUGUST 17, 2017.

STANLEY C. ROSENBERG
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

OFFERED BY:

ROBERT A. DeLEO
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

STANLEY C. ROSENBERG
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE