

RESOLUTION NO. 63-17

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA IN
DENOUNCING THE BORDER WALL**

WHEREAS, immigration has been a part of this country's history since its inception and this country has thrived as a result of the many achievements and contributions of said immigrants; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that there are 2.4 million undocumented immigrants living in California and 11.4 million living in the United States total; and

WHEREAS, 39.5 percent of Richmond's population is Latino and one out of three of our residents are foreign-born; and

WHEREAS, construction of a border wall with tightened security will harm refugees who are fleeing from life threatening situations in Central American countries including Honduras and El Salvador where gang violence is experiencing an epidemic; and

WHEREAS, undocumented immigrants contribute significantly to the economy in taxes estimated to be \$11.4 billion a year nationwide and \$3.1 billion in California alone; and

WHEREAS, the wall would increase tensions between the United States and Mexico, making it difficult to achieve cooperation on a wide variety of issues; and

WHEREAS, the wall would cause serious environmental damage by increasing emissions, cutting off natural water flows, and disturbing wildlife migration routes, all of which would contribute to climate change; and

WHEREAS, the wall would cut through ancestral native lands, interfere with native migratory traditions, divide native families, and significantly disrupt tribal communities and their day-to-day life; and

WHEREAS, the wall would be a huge financial burden to taxpayers with an estimated cost of at least \$25 billion dollars; and

WHEREAS, the United States has seen multiple waves of xenophobia and hate towards immigrants during its history, each being unjustified and damaging, with the border wall being the latest manifestation of that; and

WHEREAS, the wall would reinforce failed Cold War policies of isolationism and exclusion which caused enormous suffering and human misery; and

WHEREAS, Richmond is a city which has championed inclusion of everyone regardless of nationality, ethnicity, gender, religion and sexual orientation and has been a Sanctuary City for many years.

WHEREAS, that the City Council of the City of Richmond denounces the presidential executive order to construct a wall between the United States and Mexico and resolves to the best of its ability to divest from any companies involved in the construction of the wall.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held June 6, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Choi, Martinez, McLaughlin, Willis, Vice Mayor Beckles, and Mayor Butt.
NOES: None.
ABSTENTIONS: None.
ABSENT: Councilmember Myrick.

PAMELA CHRISTIAN
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND
(SEAL)

Approved:

TOM BUTT
Mayor

Approved as to form:

BRUCE GOODMILLER
City Attorney

State of California }
County of Contra Costa : ss.
City of Richmond }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of **Resolution No. 63-17**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on June 6, 2017.

Certified as a True Copy
PAMELA CHRISTIAN
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA
BY: Jabrina Lundy
ASSISTANT