

WHEREAS,

the Borough of Red Bank values its ethnic, racial, linguistic, and socio-economic diversity, and our diversity is a source of strength and Red Bank Borough is committed to ensuring that all our residents can live and pursue their livelihoods in peace and prosperity; and

WHEREAS,

regardless of where we are born, what we look like, how we love, or how we pray, we are Red Bank Borough residents united in our efforts to build a stronger community; and

WHEREAS,

the targeting of immigrants undermines our democracy and degrades our common humanity, but especially for the residents of a proud and richly diverse town such as the Borough of Red Bank; and

WHEREAS,

our honorable mayor is an immigrant, and our honorable elected councilpersons have family and friends who are immigrants; and

WHEREAS,

it is the constitutional obligation of the Federal Government and not the States or local municipalities to enforce our nation's immigration law and border security in our federal system of government; and

WHEREAS;

potential unfunded mandates from higher levels of government may require the detaining and reporting of immigrants by local municipalities based upon their status alone, which serves no municipal purpose and diverts the tax dollars of Red Bank residents; and

WHEREAS,

New Jersey Law Enforcement Directive 2005-1 prohibits local law enforcement from making decisions, enforcing, or selectively enforcing our laws based solely upon a person's race or ethnicity; and

WHEREAS:

Borough Employees and Officials should monitor any efforts to require the Borough to expend local funds or resources to enforce Federal immigration laws and should take action to appeal and/or challenge any such requirements; and

WHEREAS,

reporting of immigrants who have not been charged or convicted of any crime unduly burdens and diverts municipal resources and disrupts and interferes with the Borough's duty to deliver basic municipal services; and

WHEREAS,

due to the Borough's limited resources; the clear need to foster the trust of and cooperation from the public, including members of vulnerable communities; and to effectuate the Borough's goals, Red Bank Borough should clarify its role in protecting all city residents' privacy and rights; and

WHEREAS,

the Borough of Red Bank encourages the leadership in business, civic groups, community organizations, houses of worship, and other initiatives beyond this resolution in making and maintaining the Borough of Red Bank an open, welcoming, and inclusive place to live, work and play;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF RED BANK, THAT

Red Bank Borough is hereby declared a "Welcoming and Inclusive Community" wherein our vibrant and diverse community values the unique contributions of all of our residents, and that Red Bank Borough hereby declares its opposition to any forced collaboration between local law enforcement and federal immigration authorities to report, detain, or otherwise police immigrant communities based upon race, ethnicity, religion, or immigration status alone, which would make vulnerable populations, especially immigrants, less likely to report crimes, act as witnesses in criminal investigations and prosecutions, and provide intelligence to law enforcement when the cooperation of immigrant communities is essential to prevent and solve crimes and maintain public order, safety and security in the entire Borough, as well as maintain and enhance our Borough's community policing initiatives.