

WHEREAS, the United States of America's Declaration of Independence established that governments are instituted to secure mankind's unalienable rights;

WHEREAS, Christian, Muslim and Jewish people have, at one time or another, been targeted and, in many cases, have become victims of hate crimes for their differing religious beliefs, ethnicity, physical appearance or method of worship;

WHEREAS, there have been attacks upon their person, Christian monuments have been destroyed; Muslim Mosques burned; and bomb threats have been made against Jewish schools, synagogues, and community centers;

WHEREAS, when a criminal deliberately targets individual victims because of **ancestry, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, national origin, race, religion, or sexual orientation** to deprive them of their unalienable right to life, liberty, property, or pursuit of happiness, other members of that community are deeply affected, as is society as a whole;

WHEREAS, law enforcement has asked for stronger tools to address these crimes of hate so as to assist them in building better relations and trust with various communities, and to more appropriately punish these vicious criminal acts;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Salt Lake County joins with the Utah Attorney General, Salt Lake County District Attorney, the Statewide Association of Prosecutors, the Utah Chiefs of Police Association, the Utah Sheriffs' Association, the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice, the Utah Sentencing Commission, the Utah Council on Victims of Crime, the Utah House Committee on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and the Utah Senate Committee on Judiciary, Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, and many other religious and community groups in calling on the Utah State Legislature to act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a signed copy of this resolution will be sent to all members of the Utah Legislature representing any constituents residing within Salt Lake County.