

**RESOLUTION 03-18052**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BILLINGS, MONTANA OPPOSING BIGOTRY AND HATE AND ENCOURAGING EACH CITIZEN TO RESPECT AND CELEBRATE THE ETHNIC, RACIAL, CULTURAL, RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL DIVERSITY OF OUR COMMUNITY.**

WHEREAS, The United States of America is founded on the principle of equal rights and protection for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is the civic duty and responsibility of every citizen to protect the civil rights, safety, and security of individuals or groups that have been historically and remain subject to harassment, oppression, discrimination, and violence; and

WHEREAS, traditionally, hate groups have found it easy to increase their harassment when able to isolate and victimize a specific group and it is time to publicly voice our opposition to words and deeds that promote prejudice, hatred, harassment, and violence toward any citizen as a violation of our community values.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BILLINGS, MONTANA, that all residents of Billings are entitled to equal civil rights, that hate, bigotry, and violations of these civil rights be opposed by the citizens and that each citizen respect and celebrate the ethnic, racial, cultural, religious, and social diversity of our community.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Billings, Montana, this 8th day December, 2003.

CITY OF BILLINGS:

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Charles F. Tooley

Mayor

ATTEST:

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Marita Herold, CMC/AAE

City Clerk