

DRAFT v.2
A RESOLUTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY,
OREGON
DPWC # 2016-033

Regarding Sanctuary Cities

WHEREAS it is inappropriate and creates potential public safety concerns, due to reduced trust and cooperation by local communities, for local police enforcement officers to add immigration enforcement to their jobs; and

WHEREAS immigration enforcement when unrelated to criminal activities is not a part of a local law enforcement officers responsibilities but is reserved for the federal government Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers; and

WHEREAS it is currently a contravention of Oregon law* for local law enforcement to attempt to replace ICE officers in the performance of their jobs related to immigration status; and

WHEREAS legislation is being introduced for the 2017 legislature to change Oregon law such that local law enforcement is no longer shielded from enforcement of federal laws unrelated to public safety; and

WHEREAS immigration status generally has little direct relationship to local public safety issues since the vast majority of undocumented persons are productive members of the community; and

WHEREAS all local law enforcement currently, and will continue to, cooperate with federal authorities in cases where outstanding criminal warrants are involved; and

WHEREAS it has been suggested, based on public statements from the President-elect and his advisors, that the newly elected federal government is likely to place additional pressures on local law enforcement to substitute immigration enforcement activities for public safety activities and thereby reduce the safety of local communities:

Therefore, We the Democratic Party of Washington County Oregon Resolve as follows:

1. We encourage all cities in Washington County and Washington County to follow the lead of Portland and declare themselves as “sanctuary cities” for the protection of public health and safety.
2. We will forward this Resolution to all Washington County legislators with the request that they oppose any change to Oregon law that would require local law enforcement to compromise public safety by the enforcement of federal laws unrelated to such concerns.

* ORS 181.850 (1)

Submitted: December 2016, Gerritt Rosenthal; Passed by PRC for 1st reading by – 12/6/2016