

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Welcoming Week is a national campaign organized by immigration advocacy group Welcoming America, where cities and localities recognize and uplift the vitality of immigrants in their communities; and

WHEREAS, by recognizing Welcoming Week, the City of Seattle joins 49 cities across the U.S. in expressing a deep solidarity with immigrants from all corners of the world; and

WHEREAS, Welcoming Week takes place on September 10 thru 19 in 2026; and

WHEREAS, Welcoming Week encourages organizations, cities, and localities to showcase their values through events and initiatives that foster connections and collaboration between immigrants and non-immigrants, as well as belonging for all; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle's social fabric is strengthened by welcoming families of all backgrounds and creating space for their stories and aspirations; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, after community and public advocacy, the City of Seattle created the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs by ordinance and as a testament to the City and region's welcoming values; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle holds deep pride in the fact that more than one in five Seattleites are immigrants, and Washington is the third highest refugee resettlement state in the country; and

WHEREAS, Seattle is a Welcoming City, and invites people from around the world to raise families, start businesses, and make our culture and civic life even richer; and

WHEREAS, immigrants and refugees are the backbone of Seattle's workforce, making up over a quarter of the labor force and almost a third of local entrepreneurs, helping cement Seattle as a global leader of creativity and industry; and

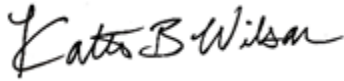
WHEREAS, the City of Seattle recognizes the harm and fear caused by federal policies that seek to divide rather than unite and the City creates programs, policies, events and resources to empower residents; and

WHEREAS, our children are deeply connected to each other and the world as reflected by the 150 languages that are spoken at Seattle Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, continued advocacy for immigrant integration is an inalienable tenet of compassion and policy for the City of Seattle, and the path into Seattle's welcoming future.

*THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND THE SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL PROCLAIM
SEPTEMBER 10-19 TO BE*

Welcoming Week in Seattle



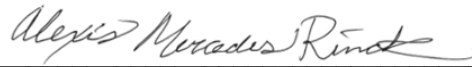
Mayor Katie Wilson



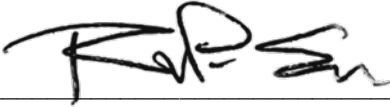
Councilmember Maritza Rivera



Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth



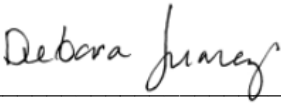
Councilmember Alexis Mercedes Rinck



Councilmember Rob Saka



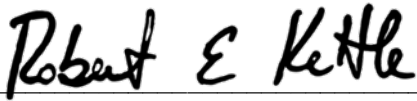
Councilmember Eddie Lin



Councilmember Debora Juarez



Councilmember Dan Strauss



Councilmember Robert Kettle



Councilmember Dionne Foster
