

RESOLUTION NO. NS-26,910

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ
EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH
A FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF PEACE

WHEREAS, during the course of the 20th century, more than 100,000,000 people perished in wars, and now, at the dawn of the 21st century, violence seems to be an overarching theme in the world; and

WHEREAS, such conflict is often taken as a reflection of the human condition without questioning whether the structures of thought, word, and deed which we have inherited are any longer sufficient for the maintenance, growth, and survival of the United States and the world; and

WHEREAS, our country was founded on the principle of ensuring peace; the Declaration of Independence recognizes the achievement of peace as one of the highest duties of the new organization of free and independent States, and the preamble of the Constitution further sets forth the insurance of the cause of peace in stating: `We the People of the United States, in Order to Form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity.; and

WHEREAS, the people of Santa Cruz are adversely affected by war and violence, whether through the personal loss of loved ones, or through the diversion of public resources that could be used to promote and support healthier and more secure lives; and

WHEREAS, promoting a culture of peace has been recognized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) through passage of a resolution declaring an International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children 2001-2010; and

WHEREAS, it is our duty think anew to develop institutions that permit the unfolding of the highest principles in our community, in this nation and around the world.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Santa Cruz hereby expresses support for legislation to establish a Federal Department of Peace, and urges our United States Senators and Representative to support such legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor may publicly express the City of Santa Cruz's support of legislation to create a Federal Department of Peace, and may, consistent with this stated position, formally endorse or oppose legislation on behalf of the City Council.

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PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 24th day of May, 2005, by the following vote:

AYES: Vice Mayor Mathews; Councilmembers Coonerty, Fitzmaurice, Porter, Madrigal, Reilly; Mayor Rotkin.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

DISQUALIFIED: None.

APPROVED: _____
Mayor

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk