

Resolution Number 108
Syrian Resettlement

WHEREAS, St. Louis is a welcoming city. Throughout its history, waves of immigrants and migrants have found homes in our region and built the rich cultural and social fiber of our region; and

WHEREAS, in 2012 St. Louis City and County established the St. Louis Mosaic Project to make the St. Louis region the “fastest growing for immigrants by 2020”; and

WHEREAS, there are strong economic imperatives to increasing the number immigrants to the St. Louis Region; and

WHEREAS, since 1919 the International Institute of St. Louis has worked to integrate immigrant newcomers into our community’s economic and cultural fiber. As St. Louis’ Welcoming Center, its services help newcomers adjust and offer St. Louisans opportunities like the annual Festival of Nations, where St. Louisans can explore and appreciate the cultures of long-timers and new residents; and

WHEREAS, many St. Louisans have rallied in support of Syrian refugee resettlement our community, it is abundantly clear that St. Louisans stand ready to help by doing more than our fair share if federal law is changed and more Syrians are admitted to the US. ; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis City has welcomed refugees in the past from Vietnam, Ethiopia, Bosnia, and Iraq and more. They have been a valuable source of new population and economic opportunity; and

WHEREAS, Syrian refugees will continue and build on our positive resettlement tradition leading to shared prosperity for all.

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to urge the President of the United State to help address the current Syrian crisis by substantially increasing refugee admissions to the US to accommodate a larger Syrian resettlement program. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to prepare a copy to be mailed to the President of the United States.

Introduced on September 18th, 2015 by:

Honorable Megan E. Green, Alderwoman 15th Ward
Honorable Marlene Davis, Alderwoman 19th Ward
Honorable Shane Cohn, Alderman 25th Ward
Honorable Lyda Krewson, Alderwoman 28th Ward
Honorable Donna Baringer, Alderwoman 16th Ward
Honorable Carol Howard, Alderwoman 14th Ward

Adopted September 18th, 2015 as attested by:

Donna Evans Booker
Assistant Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen