

RESOLUTION NO. 20-8887

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA
IN SUPPORT OF THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF
ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 3, 1979, and was entered into force as an international treaty on September 3, 1981; President Jimmy Carter signed CEDAW on behalf of the United States 1980, but the United States Senate has not yet ratified CEDAW;

WHEREAS, CEDAW is a comprehensive international women's rights treaty that provides a universal definition of discrimination against women, brings attention to a whole range of issues concerning women's human rights, and affirms principles of fundamental human rights and equality for women around the world; CEDAW calls for appropriate measures, such as legislation, to ensure women's rights and equality in all aspects of life, including in the political, social, economic, cultural, and civil fields;

WHEREAS, in 1998, San Francisco was the first city to pass a CEDAW ordinance and has seen reduced homicides of women, increased collaboration to address human trafficking and support survivors, improved working conditions for parents and caregivers; in 2013, Women's Intercultural Network (WIN), a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) with Consultative Status to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and the San Francisco Department of the Status of Women (DOSW), jointly launched a Cities for CEDAW Campaign the formation of a grassroots network, Cities for CEDAW, has worked to apply the principles of CEDAW to address gender disparities at the local level, and successfully passed CEDAW ordinances in 2017 in both the County of Santa Clara and the City of San Jose;

//

//

WHEREAS, there are vast gender disparities at the local, state, and national level; women, particularly women of color, disabled women, Native women, immigrant women, trans women, and women from marginalized communities suffer from unequal pay in Santa Clara County; intimate partner violence impacts tens of thousands of individuals in Santa Clara County with 178 domestic violence-related deaths between 2000 and 2018; sexual assault is also at epidemic levels in Santa Clara County particularly for college-age women;

WHEREAS, CEDAW provides basis for realizing equality between women and men through ensuring women's equal access to, and equal opportunities in, political and public life, including the right to vote and to stand for election, as well as education, health, and employment; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Clara has demonstrated its support against discrimination with its adoption of Ordinance No. 1899, adding Chapter 9.55 ("Prohibition Against Discrimination") to Title 9 ("Public Peace, Morals And Welfare") of "The Code of The City of Santa Clara, California," to protect and safeguard the right and opportunity of all persons to be free from all forms of arbitrary discrimination, including discrimination based on age, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, disability, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation.

//

//

//

//

//

//

//

//

//

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the Santa Clara City Council adopts the principles outlined in CEDAW and supports the implementation of these principles, including the United Nations Convention precept that "[Discrimination is any] distinction, exclusion, or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment, or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil, or any other field."
2. Effective date. This resolution shall become effective immediately.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA, AT A REGULAR MEETING THEREOF HELD ON THE 1ST DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:	COUNCILORS:	Chahal, Davis, Hardy, O'Neill, and Watanabe, and Mayor Gillmor
NOES:	COUNCILORS:	None
ABSENT:	COUNCILORS:	None
ABSTAINED:	COUNCILORS:	None

ATTEST:



NORA PIMENTEL, MMC
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
CITY OF SANTA CLARA

Attachments incorporated by reference: None