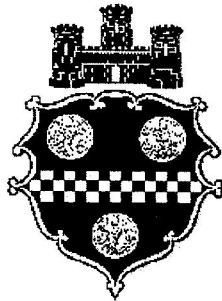


City of Pittsburgh



City Council

Regular Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

10:00 AM

**ONE-HUNDRED
THIRTY-SEVENTH COUNCIL**

Darlene M. Harris, President

**Council Members: Rev. Ricky V. Burgess, Patrick Dowd, Bruce A. Kraus, R. Daniel Lavelle,
Corey O'Connor, William Peduto, Natalia Rudiak, Theresa Kail-Smith**

**Linda M. Johnson-Wasler, City Clerk
Mary Beth Doheny, Deputy City Clerk**

Resolution No. 163

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution is the supreme law of our nation and this body has full confidence in its ability to endure all tests; and

WHEREAS, many immigrants came to the United States to escape government-sanctioned persecution of their faith; and

WHEREAS, Pittsburgh City Council believes that any law which is designed to restrict the liberty of one faith tradition erodes the founding principles of religious liberty and separation of church and state and that it is, as James Madison wrote in 1785, proper to "take alarm" at any such "experiment on our liberties"; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has a history of embracing individuals' right to practice the faith tradition of their choice within the law and free from government interference; and

WHEREAS, a multiplicity of religious beliefs, traditions, and heritages brings strength to our city and state and it is not the role of the legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or any state to disparage or marginalize any faith tradition; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pittsburgh benefits from a number of individuals and institutions whose faith motivates them to provide food to the hungry, shelter to the needy, inexpensive or free health services, and other humanitarian works; and

WHEREAS, religious leaders who facilitate conflict resolution often achieve judicially-sanctioned results that ease the burdens on our courts.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Pittsburgh, that our city welcomes all religious beliefs, traditions, and heritages; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby call on the Pennsylvania General Assembly to reject House Bill 2029 as unnecessary and inconsistent with our core constitutional principles.

SPONSORED BY COUNCILMAN WILLIAM PEDUTO
CO-SPONSORED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT DARLENE M. HARRIS AND
COUNCILMEMBERS THERESA KAIL-SMITH, NATALIA RUDIAK,
BRUCE A. KRAUS, COREY O'CONNOR, R. DANIEL LAVELLE,
PATRICK DOWD, AND REV. RICKY V. BURGESS

In Council MARCH 06, 2012, Read and Adopted.

Attest: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Mayor's Office: _____, 20____

Approved: _____
MAYOR

Attest: _____
MAYOR'S SECRETARY

Recorded in Resolution Book, Volume _____, Page _____, this _____
day of _____, 20____.