

RESOLUTION TO WALPOLE TOWN MEETING FALL 2017

WHEREAS, the detestable message of hate professed by neo-Nazi and white nationalist organizations and all other hate groups which, as proven by the tragic events that took place on August 12, 2017, in Charlottesville, Virginia, currently remain a distinct threat to societal progress and lead to senseless acts of violence that continue to terrorize members of ethnic and religious minority communities in Walpole and throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, White nationalist organizations in our country have consistently promoted so-called values that are overtly racist, anti-Semitic, and anti-immigrant, and these poisonous ideologies continue to promote hatred, bigotry, and violence specifically against individuals solely on the basis of their race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, and immigration status; and

WHEREAS, Today, white nationalism and neo-Nazism remain very real threats to the values that the Town of Walpole stands for, and

WHEREAS, While free speech is a bedrock value for the citizens of the Town of Walpole, our Commonwealth, and our Country, white nationalist and neo-Nazi groups promote a message that is the antithesis of Walpole's dedication to civil rights for all, and are in irreconcilable conflict with our foundational principles of liberty and justice for all; and

WHEREAS, White nationalism and neo-Nazism are continuing to grow as menaces to societal order that seek to reignite social animosities, reverse improvements in race relations, divide the nation, and foment hatred, classism, and ethnic eradication; and

WHEREAS, The white nationalist and neo-Nazi message of racial and social intolerance has led to senseless acts of violence that continue to terrorize members of ethnic and religious minority communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we the Walpole Town Meeting strongly denounce and oppose the totalitarian impulses, violence, xenophobic biases, and bigoted ideologies that are promoted by white nationalists and neo-Nazis, and all other hate groups, and call upon the people of Walpole to embrace our efforts to join together in denouncing and opposing such totalitarian impulses, violence, xenophobic biases, and bigoted ideologies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be directed to arrange to have a copy of this resolution posted in a public space in all Town owned buildings and on the Town's website; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Town Clerk be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the representatives in the Massachusetts House and Senate who serve Walpole and to the Norfolk County District Attorney.

