

CITY OF SEATTLE
RESOLUTION _____

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3 A RESOLUTION proclaiming Seattle to be a Human Rights City in celebration of the sixty-
4 fourth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

5 WHEREAS, The United States endorsed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the
6 American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man and the United Nations
7 Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and

8 WHEREAS, The United States ~~has signed on and~~ ratified (1) the International Covenant on Civil
9 and Political Rights, (2) ~~the~~ International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of
10 Racial Discrimination, (3) the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or
11 Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and (4) the Charter of the Organization of
12 American States; and

13 WHEREAS, The United States ~~has signed on~~ (1) the International Covenant on Economic,
14 Social, and Cultural Rights, (2) the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of
15 Discrimination Against Women, (3) ~~the~~ Convention on the Rights of the Child, (4) ~~the~~
16 Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and (5) ~~the~~ American Convention
17 on Human Rights, ~~pending their all of which now await~~ ratification; and

18 WHEREAS, The human rights instruments mentioned above constitute an important framework
19 of human rights principles for cities to strengthen and improve the impact of laws and
20 policies on local communities and work on their commitment to protecting, respecting
21 and fulfilling the full range of universal human rights, including civil, political, social,
22 economic, and cultural rights; and

23 WHEREAS, The City of Seattle has long been committed to promoting human rights as
24 demonstrated by the creation in 1963 of the Seattle Human Rights Commission “to act in
25 an advisory capacity in respect to matters affecting human rights” and make
26 recommendations “with regard to the development of programs for the promotion of
27 equality, justice and understanding among all citizens of the City” as well as recommend
28 policies “affecting civil rights and equal opportunity;” and

WHEREAS, Thirty-seven years ago the Seattle City Council recognized December 10th as the
official date for commemoration of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human
Rights; and

1 WHEREAS, The City of Seattle has implemented human rights principles in its policymaking, as
2 demonstrated by ~~actions such as implementation of~~ the Race and Social Justice Initiative,
3 a citywide initiative to address racial and social disparities and achieve racial equity; ~~and~~
4 ~~the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness in King County~~; and

5 WHEREAS, The idea of a “Human Rights City” developed to provide a model for municipal
6 government to translate and implement universal human rights principles at the local
7 level; and

8 WHEREAS, Six cities in the United States and 17 cities in the world have been proclaimed a
9 “Human Rights City” serving as models for leadership and advocacy on behalf of human
10 rights for all people; and

11 WHEREAS, A “Human Rights City” consciously aspires to respect, protect and fulfill universal
12 human rights as spelled out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the human
13 rights instruments previously enumerated; and

14 WHEREAS, On the occasion of the sixty-fourth anniversary of the signing of the Universal
15 Declaration on Human Rights, and the thirty-seventh anniversary of the City of Seattle’s
16 celebration of Human Rights Day, the City of Seattle seeks to reaffirm and deepen its
17 commitment to promote human rights by proclaiming Seattle a Human Rights City and
18 adopting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

19 NOW, THEREFORE,

20 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE**
21 **MAYOR CONCURRING:**

22 Section 1. In recognition of the sixty-fourth anniversary of the signing of the Universal
23 Declaration of Human Rights, the City Council proclaims Seattle to be a Human Rights City,
24 endorses the human rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and commits
25 to their progressive realization in the City of Seattle.

26 Section 2. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

1 Adopted by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2012, and signed by
me in open session in authentication of its adoption this _____ day of _____, 2012.

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4 _____
5 President _____ of the City Council

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7 THE MAYOR CONCURRING:

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9
10 Michael McGinn, Mayor

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12 Filed by me this _____ day of _____, 2012.

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15 _____
16 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

17 (Seal)

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19 Attachment: Universal Declaration of Human Rights
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