

Alameda County Mayors' Conference

RESOLUTION No. 2023 - 1

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY MAYORS' CONFERENCE SUPPORTING THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)

WHEREAS, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 18, 1979, became an international treaty as of September 3, 1981, and 186 UN member nations, have agreed to be bound by CEDAW's provisions;

WHEREAS, CEDAW provides a comprehensive framework for governments to examine their policies and practices in relation to women and girls and to rectify discrimination based on sex against half the world's population; and

WHEREAS, although women have made major gains in the struggle for equality in most fields, much more needs to be accomplished to fully eradicate discrimination based on sex and to achieve one of the most basic human rights, equality; and

WHEREAS, it has been more than 40 years since the first UN World Conference on Women and more than 20 years since the historic Beijing Platform for Action; and

WHEREAS, CEDAW has proven effective in many nations as a mechanism to advance gender equality, and

WHEREAS, many communities and states have called for the ratification of CEDAW by the United States Congress, and

WHEREAS, San Francisco became the first city in the world to adopt an ordinance reflecting the principles of CEDAW in 1998; Los Angeles followed in 2004; Berkeley in 2010, San Diego County in 2022; and Santa Clara County in 2023; and

WHEREAS, Cities for CEDAW was launched at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in March 2014; and

WHEREAS, a local CEDAW resolution or ordinance seeks three standards; a gender analysis of city departments and commissions, an oversight body to ensure that appropriate and timely actions are taken; and funding to support the implementation of the principles of CEDAW; and

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WHEREAS, city and county governments have an appropriate and legitimate role in affirming the importance of international law in communities as universal norms and to serve as guides for public policy.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ALAMEDA COUNTY MAYORS' CONFERENCE DOES RESOLVE AND DECLARE THE FOLLOWING:

SECTION 1: The Alameda County Mayors' Conference supports the Cities for CEDAW initiative and encourages cities, including those within Alameda County, to join San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Santa Clara to consider participating in the Cities for CEDAW initiative by passing local resolutions or ordinances supporting the principles of CEDAW using current gender-inclusive definitions for women and marriage.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Alameda County Mayors' Conference at its June 14, 2023, meeting.

I, Steven Bocian, Executive Director of the Alameda County Mayors' Conference, certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Alameda County Mayors' Conference at its meeting held on June 14, 2023.