RESOLUTION 98-24

TO AFFIRM TOLERANCE AND DIVERSITY
AND
TO OPPOSE THE LITERATURE OF HATE

WHEREAS, the strength of Bloomington has much of its basis in its diversity and tolerance; and

WHEREAS, Bloomington aspires to the ideal of being a safe and civil community; and

WHEREAS, the right of every person to live without harassment or fear should be unfettered; and

WHEREAS, during recent months flyers and brochures have been distributed in the community and at the university; and

WHEREAS, because this material incites fear, prolongs ignorance and racial and cultural stereotyping, and detracts from good order, it demands a strong, unequivocal, united response from the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MONROE COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

1. The Common Council reaffirms its conviction that diversity and tolerance are key elements of a strong community, and that every citizen has the right to live without fear.

2. The Common Council condemns the circulation of literature that promotes hate and repudiates any organization that produces it.

3. The Common Council endorses the organized community response to the distribution of hate literature that is being coordinated by Bloomington's Safe and Civil City office.

4. The Common Council encourages all businesses and citizens to act individually and as organizations to promote tolerance and diversity.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 9th day of November, 1998.

TIMOTHY MAYER, President
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:

PATRICIA WILLIAMS, Clerk
City of Bloomington

PRESENTED by me to the Mayor on this 9th day of November, 1998.

PATRICIA WILLIAMS, Clerk
City of Bloomington

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this 9th day of November, 1998.

JOHN FERNANDEZ, Mayor
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This resolution is sponsored by L. David Sabbagh and Timothy Mayer and responds to the recent dissemination of hate literature by reaffirming the climate of tolerance and diversity that exists in our community and opposing the climate of fear and ignorance instilled by the literature of hate.