

RESOLUTION NO. R2021-012

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEQUIM, WASHINGTON, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR OUR SMALL BUSINESSES AND ESSENTIAL WORKERS' INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS.

WHEREAS, Section 1 of the 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution states: “No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States: nor shall any state deprive any person of life, or property, without due process of law: nor deny to any person within it’s jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws”; and

WHEREAS, Article 1 - Section 1 of the Washington State Constitution states: “All political power is inherent in the people and government derives it’s just power from the consent of the governed and is established to protect and maintain individual rights”; and

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 2 of the Washington State Constitution states: “The Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the land”; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court has held that a state of emergency does not diminish the constitutional rights guaranteed to the people; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Health has stated that the COVID-19 vaccines do not prevent a person from being infected with COVID-19 nor do they prevent an infected vaccinated person from spreading the virus to another person; and

WHEREAS, on August 18th, 2021, Governor Inslee mandated that all K-12 and higher education employees, as well as childcare providers, school staff, coaches, bus drivers, contractors, volunteers, and others working in school facilities must be vaccinated or be prohibited from engaging in work; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has mandated that all state workers, workers in state agencies, workers at educational settings and workers in healthcare settings be fully vaccinated by October 18, 2021, or be prohibited from engaging in work; and

WHEREAS, on September 2, 2021, the Director of Clallam County Department of Health stated vaccinations are required to enter Peninsula restaurants/bars starting Saturday, September 4th which includes proof of vaccinations or what is commonly referred to as “vaccination passports”; and

WHEREAS, the policing of vaccinated citizens has now been placed on restaurant/bar owners resulting in additional workload, fewer customers, and further strain on their ability to run a successful business; and

WHEREAS, the requirements being imposed on restaurant/bar owners is occurring when outdoor seating, available for customers, is less desirable due to seasonal change in weather conditions which will result in fewer customers; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEQUIM,
WASHINGTON, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE TO:**

- 1) Uphold the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Washington and to stand in strong support of the people in the City of Sequim and anyone else in Clallam County, and the State that believe their constitutional rights are being violated; and
- 2) Stand in strong support of all our state workers, educators and healthcare workers who are being forced to submit to vaccines with fear of losing their employment; and
- 3) Stand in strong support with our restaurant/bar owners who will be financially impacted by the requirement to verify customers have been vaccinated prior to allowing them to dine inside; and
- 4) Condemn any form of discrimination towards any person that does not possess or present proof of COVID-19 vaccine.

APPROVED by the Sequim City Council at a regular meeting thereof this 13th day of September, 2021.

William Armacost, Mayor

Attest:

Approved as to Form:

Sara McMillon, City Clerk

Kristina Nelson-Gross, City Attorney