

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OF WAYNE COUNTY, INDIANA**

**Resolution No. 2015 – 005**

**A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING ITS COMMITMENT TO RESPECT  
FOR ETHNIC AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND AFFIRMING ITS  
INTENT THAT IT'S CONSTITUENTS ENJOY EQUAL ACCESS TO  
AND PROTECTION OF THE LAW BY WAYNE COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

***WHEREAS***, the Board of County Commissioners (“Board”) is the executive and legislative body for Wayne County, Indiana, Government (“County”); and

***WHEREAS***, the Indiana General Assembly recently enacted Senate Enrolled Act No. 101, commonly known as the *Religious Freedom Restoration Act* (the “Act”) adding Chapter 9 to Title 34, Article 13 of the Indiana Code; which Act was signed into law by the Governor of the State of Indiana to become effective July 1, 2015; and

***WHEREAS***, passage of the Act has generated debate and critical comment across this state and across the nation as to the Act’s purpose, intent, application and implications of its enforcement; and

***WHEREAS***, this Board is in no position to fully and finally assess the purpose, intent, application and implications of the Act with such matters to be finally determined by subsequent judicial interpretation and/or further legislative enactments; and

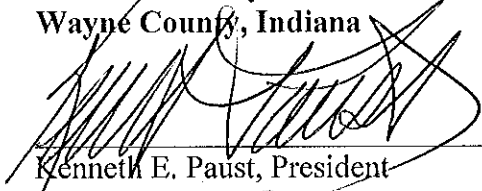
***WHEREAS***, notwithstanding any of the foregoing recitals, and in response to the public debate and commentary that passage of the Act has generated, this Board wishes to now take this opportunity to affirm on behalf of Wayne County Government the propositions set forth below;

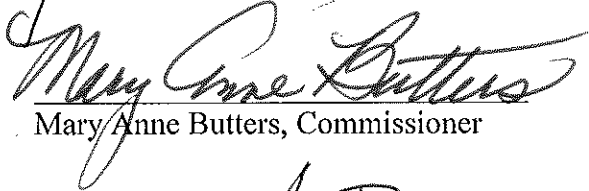
***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*** by the Board of County Commissioners of Wayne County, Indiana, for and on behalf of County, that Wayne County Government affirms its belief in, and commitment to, the following propositions:


1. Ethnic and cultural diversity among the citizens and institutions of Wayne County, Indiana, is to be encouraged and celebrated as promoting a better quality of life and a more culturally aware and enlightened citizenry in our county.
2. Wayne County Government has been and remains committed to the appropriate recognition and preservation of otherwise legally protected rights in all aspects of the exercise of county governance.
3. Wayne County Government opposes unlawful invidious discrimination in any form, whether *de jure* or *de facto*, and with the passage of this Resolution, hereby affirms its commitment to equality under the law for all of its citizenry.

Duly adopted this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2015.

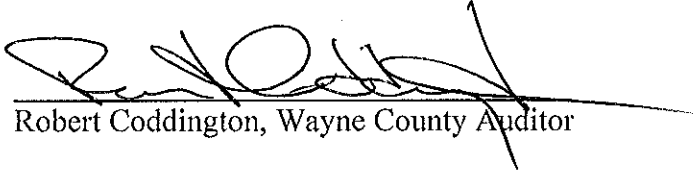
**Board of County Commissioners,  
Wayne County, Indiana**

  
Kenneth E. Paust, President

  
Mary Anne Butters, Commissioner

  
Dennis A. Burns, Commissioner

Attest:

  
Robert Coddington, Wayne County Auditor