

A RESOLUTION/PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VANCOUVER URGING A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN.

WHEREAS, the City Council and the people of the City of Vancouver, Washington support the women and men serving in the United States Armed Forces in Iraq and recognize the sacrifices that each of them and their families are making; and,

WHEREAS, the infrastructure, public safety, and a social safety net are the responsibilities of local municipal government and priorities of the Vancouver City Council as the budgeting authority for the City of Vancouver; and

WHEREAS, appropriations for the war reduce Federal funds for these municipal priorities; and

WHEREAS, the calling up of National Guard units which includes Vancouver citizens means that valued employees of local businesses and the public sector, including the City of Vancouver, lose the services of those employees for extended periods and must make often costly adjustments within their workforces, and

WHEREAS, part of the mission of the National Guard is to be a trained and equipped force ready for rapid intervention in times of natural disaster or social upheaval and that mission cannot be performed when the Guard is called up for duty overseas, leaving the City without a valuable safety net.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Vancouver, Washington on behalf of its citizens, urge that a viable, just and sustainable solution be found to end the sorrow and conflict in both Iraq and Afghanistan, which in turn will result in benefiting the people of Vancouver.