

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD  
IN THE CITY COUNCIL      March 28, 2018

WHEREAS, Part I, Article II of the Declaration of Rights of the Massachusetts Constitution states: It is the right as well as the duty of all men in society, publicly, and at stated seasons to worship the Supreme Being, the great Creator and Preserver of the universe. And no subject shall be hurt, molested, or restrained, in his person, liberty, or estate for worshipping God in the manner and season most agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience; or for his religious profession or sentiments; and

WHEREAS, Amendment Article XVIII to the Massachusetts Constitution states: No law shall be passed prohibiting the free exercise of religion; and

WHEREAS, the history of this Commonwealth and this Nation have been enriched, bettered and ennobled by the social justice missionary work of various religious congregations; and

WHEREAS, the South Congregational Church UCC ("South Church") is a long standing and well-recognized member of our Springfield faith community; and

WHEREAS, South Church has a religious mission of working towards and fostering social justice, and as an essential part of that religious mission is providing sanctuary to a wife and a mother subject to a deportation; and

WHEREAS, South Church is joined in this sanctuary mission by the Springfield Interfaith Coalition, which includes the following: Blessed Sacrament/All Souls Church; Holy Name Church; Holy Cross Church; Unitarian Universalist Society of Greater Springfield, Inc. and the Sisters of Saint Joseph,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED that no member of the City of Springfield, including all employees or agents shall take any step, measure or act to interfere with, restrain, intimidate or prevent South Church and the Springfield Interfaith Coalition in its mission of providing sanctuary to Gisella Collazo or any other individual..