

T. G. B.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LANE COUNTY, OREGON

PROCLAMATION
09-10-20 -5

) IN THE MATTER OF CENSORING
) HATE SPEECH AND DISPLAYS
)

WHEREAS, in recent weeks and months there have been several incidents of hate speech and actions that have occurred in Lane County, and

WHEREAS, the Lane County Commissioners and other Lane County employees have been contacted by citizens who are seriously offended and troubled by these words and actions, and

WHEREAS, the Lane County Board of Commissioners, as a Board and as individuals are also gravely concerned and dismayed by all hate speech and displays, including these most recent incidents, and

WHEREAS, incidents of hate speech and displays historically lead to retaliation and violence, which in turn lead to more hate activity and violence, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners also values the right of all people to be free to express their beliefs, even if they are contrary to the beliefs held by others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners declares that hate speech and actions, in any manner or form they make take, are not welcome or supported in Lane County; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that any manner of speech that is hateful towards other members of this community is hurtful to the community as a whole; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners understands and remembers the sacrifices our veterans made to protect every American's right to freely express their thoughts and feelings, but at the same time, strongly disagrees with any actions that make Lane County unwelcoming to people from all backgrounds, beliefs, and origins.

Dated this ___ day of October 2009.

Pete Sorenson, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners