

Board of Directors
National League of Cities
Washington, D.C.

March 15, 2026

Resolution to Lead with Civility, Dignity and Respect

WHEREAS, The National League of Cities, founded in 1924, is the nation's oldest organization representing 19,000 cities, towns and villages across the United States,

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors of the National League of Cities is comprised of 63 members, elected from across the United States to serve one or two-year terms,

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors of the National League of Cities stands united to lead with civility, dignity and respect to meet the needs of all residents across America,

WHEREAS, Local governments across the United States are the most trusted level of government — 67 percent of residents trust them to handle local problems and 62 percent feel their local elected officials represent them or their community's interest very and somewhat well.*

WHEREAS, Local governments create innovative solutions and economically thriving and resilient communities by delivering services effectively and efficiently every day.

WHEREAS, the 19,000 locally elected city, town and village leaders interact daily with their residents on main streets, in schools, and throughout their communities, actively listening, discussing key issues and solving issues.

WHEREAS, We are committed to honoring the dignity of every resident in every neighborhood and to leading by example in showing that differences need not lead to division when we treat one another with dignity.

We do hereby RESOLVE that

Member cities, towns and villages develop and pass their own Civility Pledge, committing to promote civility within their governance bodies, and that

We stand united, leading with respect, dignity, and civility to reduce polarization and create an environment that values shared goals, increased empathy, and genuine dialogue.

*Sources: Americans Trust Local Government Most, Congress Least (Gallup, 2023); Resident Opinion of Local Government Brief (National League of Cities, 2025).