

NOTA Society Resolution

A RESOLUTION recognizing civic solidarity with people who belong to no organized religion in the United States of America and for such reason face personal and statutory prejudice.

WHEREAS, Social science has long revealed high rates of irrational dislike, distrust, fear, or hatred of non-religious people within American society.

WHEREAS, It is illegal for an atheist to hold public office in seven states; atheists aren't allowed in the Boy Scouts, the American Legion, or the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and

WHEREAS, Over 50% of all adult Americans do not identify with any established religion; and

WHEREAS, Atheists, agnostics, secularists, freethinkers, and naturalists believing in Nature's God are met with puzzled looks, with often subsequent disdain after espousing their beliefs; and

WHEREAS, These non-religionists do face discrimination, though rarely the kind of prejudice, hostility, and violence experienced by Native Americans, African Americans, Latino/a Americans, Asian Americans, Jews, Catholics, Mormons, or Muslims; and

WHEREAS, No stigma is attached to the expressed dislike of the non-religious as normally and commonly applied to being racist, antisemitic, anti-Muslim, or against gay and transgender people; and

WHEREAS, Americans equate a lack of religious membership in a particular denomination with immorality and being un-American and/or unpatriotic; and

WHEREAS, Faith based on revealed truths requires social institutional support to survive, resulting in the temptation to treat anyone rejecting or even questioning the tenets of any one religion as a threat; and

Be it resolved by the undersigned: That we do hereby establish the *None of the Above Society* to support and recognize those who are not a member of an organized religion whose secular, religious, and spiritual beliefs do not fit within organized religions, and

Be it further resolved by the undersigned: That we believe it is necessary to bring the issues and grievances of such people to the attention of the body politic to be discussed and addressed.

Be it further resolved by the undersigned: That we will make every effort to listen to and acknowledge the views of the traditionally religious, only asking the same when approached with our views as abhorrent as they may seem. We invite others to join us in this endeavor.

Signed: _____ *Daniel Lynn Goetz* _____

Date: June 8, 2021

Signed: _____ *Kenneth Lee Grotewiel* _____

Date: June 8, 2021

Signed: _____ *Daniel Michael Stuhlsatz* _____

Date: June 8, 2021