Resolution Denouncing Illegal Arrest of Muhammad Zahid Chaudhry and Detention by ICE of American Residents and Demanding Their Release

WHEREAS United States residents, many of whom have lived, worked, and paid taxes for decades, are being illegally detained by ICE, and Muhammad Zahid Chaudhry, an activist for peace and an honorable, decorated, disabled veteran who uses a wheelchair due to injuries sustained in US military training for service to our country, has been placed in ICE detention after a naturalization meeting under circumstances that raise significant concerns about the protection of civil liberties and the overreach of the executive branch; and

WHEREAS the arrest of Muhammad Zahid Chaudhry sparked widespread concern among members of King County, who believe that these actions are intended to intimidate political opposition and activism into silence and inaction, and to unjustly infringe on the fundamental rights of individuals—particularly non-citizens—to peacefully assemble, speak out, and engage in activism without fear of retaliation or criminalization; and

WHEREAS as Democrats, we must stand against any actions that disrespect the service of our veterans, undermine our democracy or create a chilling effect on activism, especially when it comes to protecting the rights of individuals who seek to make positive changes in their communities through lawful means;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 46th Legislative District Democrats call for the immediate release of Muhammad Zahid Chaudhry from solitary confinement and ICE custody, naturalization of him as a US citizen as is his right as a veteran, and that DHS act in accordance with due process guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution that protects democratic freedoms and rights, fosters open dialogue, and refrain from any actions that contribute to or support the unjust criminalization of activism or the targeting of individuals for their political beliefs or activism; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 46th Legislative District Democrats demand that all detained people who have not committed or been charged with crimes should be released immediately and allowed due process while free to live and contribute to their communities, and urge that those committing illegal acts

pertaining to the detention of Zahid and others be brought to justice in accordance with the U.S. Constitution; and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the 46th District Democrats resoundingly condemn the arrest of Muhammad Zahid Chaudhry as a blatant violation of the right to free speech, and reaffirm our commitment to defending democracy, human rights, and the fundamental freedoms that define our nation.

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Approved by the 46th Legislative District Democrats, September 16, 2025

Submitted by: Yaz Kader, Jessica Trupin, Lisa Levy, Julie Conklin, Kathy Bentson, Lance Ludwick, Aidan Carroll
Adopted August 26, 2025 by King County Democrats