RESOLUTION R-5749

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND OPPOSING INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 26-001 CONCERNING PARENTAL RIGHTS RELATING TO THEIR CHILDREN IN PUBLIC SCHOOL.

WHEREAS, Washington State has placed a ballot measure before the voters with the official ballot measure title of "Initiative Measure No. 26-001 concerns parental rights relating to their children in public school"; and

WHEREAS, Initiative Measure No. 26-001 is scheduled to go to Washington voters during the November 3, 2026 General Election; and

WHEREAS, on February 21, 2017, the City Council adopted Resolution R-5240 declaring Kirkland a safe, inclusive, and welcoming community for all people; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland's 2044 Comprehensive Plan Vision Statement affirms that Kirkland is a place where all people are valued and commits the City to celebrating diversity, inclusion, and the active combating of discrimination as guiding principles for public decision-making; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that schools serving Kirkland's shared community play a foundational role in promoting inclusive, welcoming, and equitable learning environments for all students, including 2SLGBTQIA+ youth, multilingual learners, students with disabilities, and students from historically marginalized communities, many of whom rely on trusted school-based services for safety and support; and

WHEREAS, Kirkland is dedicated to accessibility, resilience, and the wellbeing of current and future generations, which includes supporting systems that foster safe and supportive educational environments; and

WHEREAS, the City has consistently affirmed that strong, inclusive, and collaborative public institutions are essential to maintaining community wellbeing, public trust, and continuity of services that serve a diverse and growing population; and

WHEREAS, the City acknowledges that any changes affecting the accessibility of supportive school services, including counseling, mental health resources, family engagement supports, or culturally competent student services, could have disproportionate impacts on students who already face barriers to equitable educational experiences; and

WHEREAS, in compliance with RCW 29B.45.010(1), notice of the meeting during which this resolution is being voted on included the title and number of the ballot measure, and members of the public and members of City Council were each afforded an approximately equal opportunity for the expression of an opposing views; and

WHEREAS, with this Resolution the City Council desires to oppose Initiative Measure No. 26-001.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as follows:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Kirkland hereby declares its official position in opposition to Initiative Measure No. 26-001 concerning parental rights relating to their children in public school.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this 20th day of October, 2026.

Signed in authentication thereof this 20th day of October, 2026.

Kelli Curtis, Mayor

Attest:

Anastasiya Warhol, City Clerk