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Human Relations Commission HRC March 28 item 5.1 - public comment Thursday, March 28, 2024 1:37:00 PM

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Just a few years ago, the City of Chula Vista took great public pride in its designation as a certified Welcoming City. When the city was called upon by Welcoming America and by its own community members to do better and take specific actions to remain truly welcoming, its then-leaders chose to let the designation quietly lapse instead. And now today, Councilmember Preciado's proposed revision would erase any remaining mention or memory of Chula Vista's aspiration to be a truly welcoming city for immigrants. How cynical, and how disheartening to the community that worked so hard over years to achieve and protect this promise!

I join many community members in OPPOSING this revision and erasure, and asking that the HRC reinstate the following revised wording of the ordinance before voting at tonight's meeting:

"B. The **ongoing** duty of the Commission shall be to help the City fulfill its commitment to become a truly Welcoming City, by identifying needs and measures to protect the rights and improve the wellbeing of immigrants, and by using resources from networks like Welcoming America."

Thank you, Nancy Relaford (she/her)