RESOLUTION NO. 7471

A RESOLUTION introduced by Councilmember Duane Pomeroy relating to the Governing Body's intent to assist in desegregation efforts by promoting desegregated housing and equal opportunity employment.

WHEREAS, Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka (hereinafter referred to as Brown) was the most important legal decision of the 20th Century with the ruling that "... in the field of education, the doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place."; and

WHEREAS, Brown led to civil rights court decisions and laws in all aspects of public institutions; and

WHEREAS, de jure segregation was in many cases replaced by de facto segregation due to housing patterns and individual prejudices; and

WHEREAS, the federal government through HUD and previous City officials were involved in decisions to concentrate public housing units in certain parts of town; and

WHEREAS, integrated schools do not lead to integrated neighborhoods but integrated neighborhoods lead to integrated schools; and

WHEREAS, this governing body believes that both economic and racial isolation are detrimental to the community as a whole.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of Topeka, Kansas, express their intent to assist all area public schools in achieving a diverse population by asking its appointees to the Topeka Housing Authority to approve

COUNRES
DESEEGREGATED HOUSING/
EMPLOYMENT
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a scattered-site housing program that would attempt to have public housing equalized throughout the community and by vigorously investigating fair housing complaints.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governing Body will continue to promote equal employment opportunity within the City of Topeka pursuant to City of Topeka resolutions and ordinances. This Governing Body recognizes the need for partnership of schools, government, churches, businesses, and individuals in a community-wide effort to insure that all citizens are free from the injustices of discrimination as we enter the second 50 years after Brown.

ADOPTED and APPROVED by the City Council MAY 11 2004

James A. McClinton, Mayor

Iris E. Walker, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
DATE 5/12/04 BY