RESOLUTION NO. 7684

A RESOLUTION introduced by Councilmembers John Nave, John Alcala, Jeff Preisner, Brett Blackburn, Lana Kennedy, Sylvia Ortiz, and Clark Duffy establishing a Special Council Committee to study and consider diversity issues related to City of Topeka personnel and purchasing practices.

WHEREAS, Topeka citizens have expressed their concerns regarding the employment and purchasing practices of the City of Topeka in matters of diversity and racial equality; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the City of Topeka, as stated in City of Topeka Code Section 86-111 to “…take affirmative action to achieve equal treatment in employment for individuals regardless of race, religion, creed, color, sex, physical handicap which is unrelated to the ability to perform a particular job or occupation, national origin or ancestry, in all personnel actions and procedures…”; and

WHEREAS, it is also the policy of the City of Topeka, as stated in City of Topeka Code Section 86-133 to enhance the participation and utilization of minority, women and disadvantaged business enterprises in the purchase and acquisition of goods and services by the City of Topeka; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of these policies it is necessary that the City of Topeka be ever vigilant and progressive in its efforts to employee, retain and provide advancement opportunities for women and minorities, as well provide business opportunities for women, minority and disadvantaged business enterprises that may wish to sell goods or services to the City of Topeka.
BE IT RESOLVED by the council of the City of Topeka, Kansas that the Council hereby appoints a Special Committee to study, review and make written recommendations to the City Council as more specifically described herein and consistent with the above recitals. Members of the Special Committee shall be residents of the City and shall possess special knowledge of public employment and/or purchasing processes and procedures, with specific knowledge of issues and solutions related to diversity in employment and/or purchasing.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Topeka, Kansas that the Special Committee shall consist of nine (9) members to be appointed by the Deputy Mayor, as recommended by each of the nine (9) councilmembers. Each councilmember shall inform the Deputy of his or her selection within one (1) week of the passage of this resolution. The Special Committee shall elect one member to serve as Chair of the Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Topeka, Kansas that the Special Committee is directed to study, review and make recommendations to the City Council on or before sixty (60) days from passage regarding the following:

- Personnel practices and procedures, specifically relating to issues of diversity.
- Purchasing practices and procedures, specifically relating to issues of diversity and compliance monitoring, and women, minority and disadvantaged business enterprise participation and utilization.
- Race relations between City government and its employees, and the relationship between City government and the community.
ADOPTED and APPROVED by the City Council September 13, 2005.

CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS

William W. Bunten, Mayor

ATTEST:

Iris E. Walker, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
DATE 9/19/05 BY