

7/23/98

42-R-98

A Resolution

Urging Governor to Veto HB 2370

WHEREAS, House Bill 2370 "The Religious Freedom Restoration Act", ("the Bill"), has passed both Houses of the Illinois General Assembly and is now on the Governor's desk for signature; and

WHEREAS, the Bill is highly detrimental to municipal operations; and

WHEREAS, the Bill will have a negative impact upon zoning, discrimination, employment and other governmental regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Bill provides for the provision of attorney's fees to the successful litigant; and

WHEREAS, the Bill will encourage costly and unfounded challenges to appropriate governmental action; and

WHEREAS, the Bill has no necessary purpose in that the provisions of Paragraph III, Article I of the Illinois Constitution preserve the free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship without discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the First Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees religious freedom and the separation of church and state; and

WHEREAS, the City of Evanston is a stronghold of religious diversity and freedom; and

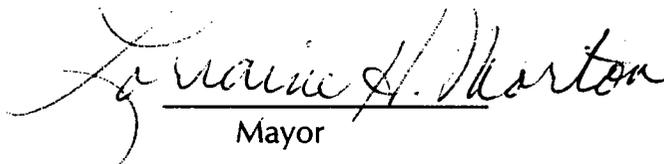
WHEREAS, within the City of Evanston there are approximately 85 places of religious worship in a community of approximately 73,000 citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Bill imposes an unwarranted and expensive burden upon the municipalities to protect freedoms which have long been preserved and are available.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EVANSTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

SECTION 1: The Governor of the State of Illinois is urged to exercise his veto power over House Bill 2370.

SECTION 2: That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.


Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk

Adopted: July 27, 1998