

PLATTE COUNTY RESOLUTION #2021-04

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PROTECTION OF RIGHTS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF WYOMING

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of W.S.S. §18-2-101, the Board of Platte County Commissioners ("Board") is the governing body of Platte County, Wyoming ("County").

WHEREAS, each member of the Board is required to take an oath of office prior to the assumption of duties as a Commissioner of the County.

WHEREAS, the oath of office requires each Commissioner to swear to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Wyoming and to faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of the office of Commissioner for the County, as prescribed by law (Wyoming Constitution Article 6, Sec. 20, and W.S.S. §18-1-305).

WHEREAS, under the pretense of protecting people from a disease, the people's natural Rights to peacefully assemble, to speak their consciences freely, and to defend their lives and businesses have been forcibly taken in countless incidents of governmental disregard for the Constitution of our nation and for the constitutions of our states.

WHEREAS, in the recent case of *ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK v. ANDREW M. CUOMO, GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK*, 592 U.S. __ (2020), the Supreme Court of the United States stated that "even in a pandemic the Constitution cannot be put away and forgotten."

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 7 of the Wyoming Constitution states that, "Absolute, arbitrary power over the lives, liberty and property of freemen exists nowhere in a republic, not even in the largest majority."

WHEREAS, the Board maintains a strong commitment to all of the rights of the people of the County as stated in the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Wyoming, which are applicable at all times, including, but not limited to, during the declaration of emergencies.

WHEREAS, the Board opposes the adoption of laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, restrictions and other governmental documents of legal force that unlawfully infringe upon the rights secured by said Constitutions.

WHEREAS, the rights of said Constitutions appear to be especially in jeopardy at this particular time in our country's history.

WHEREAS, the commitment to defend our natural, unalienable Rights must "start local," in individuals, in our communities and in our local governments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF PLATTE COUNTY, WYOMING, that:

1. The Board and County do hereby commit to stand and defend at all times, whether during a state of emergency or otherwise, the rights and liberties of the persons in Platte County as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Wyoming.
2. Platte County is hereby declared to be a "Constitutional Rights Sanctuary County."
3. The Board requests that all agencies, departments and officers of the County:
 - 3.1 Continue to uphold their oaths and take due care at all times, whether during a state of emergency or otherwise, not to infringe upon the rights and liberties of the persons in Platte County as stated in the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Wyoming;
 - 3.2 Review, and change as necessary, their rules, regulations, orders, policies, practices, and all governmental documents of legal force for conformity to said Constitutions; and,
 - 3.3 Adopt commitments similar to this Resolution for the protection of the Constitutional rights and liberties of the persons in Platte County.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 4th day of May 2021.

**PLATTE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Steve Shockley

Steve Shockley, Chairman

Ian Jolovich

Ian Jolovich, Commissioner

Kayla Mantle

Kayla Mantle, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Malcolm Ervin

Malcolm Ervin, County Clerk

