



**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
BUTLER-TARKINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

WHEREAS, the Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association (BTNA) was formed in 1956 and incorporated in 1960 in response to social tensions of the time;

WHEREAS, the purposes for which BTNA was formed include “lessening neighborhood tensions, eliminating prejudice and discrimination, defending human and civil rights secured by law, [and] combatting community deterioration”;

WHEREAS, BTNA consistently attempts to promote a diverse, resilient, tolerant community within the neighborhood and in greater midtown Indianapolis;

WHEREAS, in March 2019 a long-time resident of Butler-Tarkington was the victim of a racist attack when her garage was vandalized using spray paint to mark it with a racist epithet;

WHEREAS, BTNA believes that acts such as this have no place in the community it envisions;

WHEREAS, BTNA has, at recent neighborhood meetings, hosted Senators Greg Taylor and John Ruckleshaus, who discussed how Indiana is one of a handful of states without additional criminal penalties for crimes motivated by biases against protected classes;

WHEREAS, Senators Taylor and Ruckleshaus encouraged those in attendance to support their bias crimes proposed legislation, Senate Bill 198;

WHEREAS, a bias crimes law may have deterred the recent attack on our resident;

THEREFORE, BE IT:

RESOLVED, that BTNA denounces the racist vandalism experienced recently by its valued resident.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that acts of racism of any kind are not tolerated by BTNA in the Butler-Tarkington neighborhood.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that BTNA, consistent with its stated purpose, calls for the Indiana General Assembly to enact the strongest possible version of Senate Bill 198, in order to lend added protection to the most vulnerable in our neighborhood and all over the state of Indiana.

ADOPTED, April 3, 2019.