

**RESOLUTION 2014-24**  
**IN SOLIDARITY TO STAND AGAINST BULLYING IN FRESNO COUNTY,**  
**SCHOOLS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE**

WHEREAS, bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance and encompasses threats, malicious rumors, physical and verbal attacks, and social exclusion;

WHEREAS, the issue of school bullying is the most frequently cited civil rights concern of Sikh American children and parents;

WHEREAS, a 2014 report by the Sikh Coalition found that over 50 percent of Sikh children surveyed have endured school bullying because of their religion, the practice of which includes wearing a turban and maintaining uncut hair;

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest world religion, with approximately 25 million adherents worldwide and an estimated 250,000 followers in California, comprising 40 percent of the total Sikh American population;

WHEREAS, Sikh Americans have lived in the United States for more than a century and regard it as their civic duty to promote a safe and healthy learning environment for all children, regardless of their religion, race, ethnicity, nationality, sex, gender, and sexual orientation;

WHEREAS, educators, school administrators, legislators, and the media all have a significant role to play in promoting safe and healthy schools for our nation's children.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS: That the Fresno Council of Governments honors and supports the work of the Sikh Coalition and Sikh community organizations to prevent bullying and foster safe and healthy schools for our nation's children.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was passed and adopted by the Fresno Council of Governments this 31st day of July, 2014.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Chairman

ATTEST:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution of the Fresno Council of Governments duly adopted at a regular meeting thereof held on the 31st day of July, 2014.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Boren, Executive Director