

Resolution No. 2011R-042

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AN INVOCATION AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Douglas County, a political subdivision of the State of Nevada, recognizes the importance religion has played in our history; and

WHEREAS, Douglas County also recognizes that government is not to prefer religion to non-religion, but neither should it be hostile to religion; and

WHEREAS, Douglas County reaffirms its desire to respect and protect the provisions of the United States Constitution and the Nevada Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners recognizes that it is deeply imbedded in the history and tradition of this great country for legislative and other deliberative bodies to have an invocation at the beginning of their meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners believe that it would be a nice reflection of our wonderfully diverse community to have an invocation at the beginning of each regular meeting to solemnize the public meeting, express confidence in the future and encourage recognition of what is worthy of appreciation in Douglas County.

NOW THEREFORE, THE DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESOLVES TO:

1. Begin each regular meeting with an invocation.
2. Extend an invitation to every religious as well as civic organization in Douglas County to give the invocations.
3. Extend the invitations in a neutral manner. There will be no public funds or support extended to any invocation speaker.
4. Provide that the invocation need not be religious in form, but rather it can be a thought, reading or moment of silence. No person at the meeting shall be required to participate in the invocation proceeding.
5. Encourage that the invocation be positive and uplifting and respectful of the diverse religious and spiritual makeup of the community and meeting audience.
6. Require that the invocation speaker refrain from proselytizing or disparaging others and strive to be nondenominational and secular in nature.
7. Require that the invocation or message shall not address any particular items on the agenda or anyone by name.
8. Require that the invocation not solicit membership or donations to the religious institution or civic organization.

