

ADOPTED BY THE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL

May 8, 2018

RESOLUTION NO. 22888

A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE PRIVATE OPERATION OF CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES AND DETENTION CENTERS AND TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF PRIVATE CORPORATIONS FOR CITY DETENTION FACILITIES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the City of Tucson, through the direction of the Mayor and Council, has been working diligently as a leader in supporting, promoting and protecting basic human rights for all who reside, work, and study in the City of Tucson; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have also supported programs designed to serve as alternatives to detention, which have proven to provide better outcomes for the community and offenders, increased public safety, and reduced recidivism; and

WHEREAS, the State of Arizona and other jurisdictions have contracted with private, for-profit corporations for operation of their detention and correctional facilities but have not experienced reduced populations, better efficiency, or the other successes; and

WHEREAS, national and state reviews have shown that contracting with private for-profit corporations to operate correctional and detention facilities does not save money when all aspects of affected justice systems are taken into account; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that private for-profit correctional and detention facilities generally have fewer correctional officers and medical specialists than equivalent government-run facilities, reducing the safety of the officers, detainees and the public at large, and impairing detainees' welfare; and

WHEREAS, private for-profit correctional and detention corporations are based outside of Arizona and have no links to local providers of community-based services that have the knowledge, history, and expertise to properly meet the needs of detainees; and

WHEREAS, private for-profit correctional and detention corporations have little accountability to taxpayers and lack transparency regarding their operations and treatment of detainees:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUCSON, ARIZONA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Mayor and Council opposes the private operation of correctional and detention facilities, and pledges not to participate in any contract that includes private operations of these facilities. The Mayor and Council further opposes expansion of the privatization of supervision or surveillance programs and pledges not to participate in any contract that expands the scope of private contractors in those programs.

SECTION 2. WHEREAS, it is necessary for the preservation of the peace, health and safety of the City of Tucson that this Resolution become immediately effective, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF TUCSON, ARIZONA May 8, 2018.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

REVIEWED BY:



CITY ATTORNEY

CITY MANAGER

MR/dg
4/24/18