

TOWN OF BEDFORD

Resolution No. _____ of 2021

Resolution to Condemn the January 6, 2021 Insurrection at the United States Capitol,
and Advance Civics Education in the Town of Bedford

WHEREAS, the peaceful transition of power in the United States has taken place for over 200 years and is essential to our functioning democracy;

WHEREAS, falsehoods and misinformation were used to incite rioters to storm the United States Capitol, with the intent of interfering with the certification of electoral college ballots;

WHEREAS, insurgents carried Confederate flags, displayed antisemitic symbols and slogans, and erected a gallows on Capitol grounds, manifesting bigotry, hatred, and utter disregard for the rule of law;

WHEREAS, the violent insurrection jeopardized the lives of elected officials and other civil servants, culminating in the death of five Americans, including a United States Capitol Police officer;

WHEREAS, the Town Board of Town of Bedford issued a statement condemning the “attack on democracy” witnessed on January 6th, 2021 as “one of the most alarming in our nation’s history” and one that it regarded as “an assault on a core pillar of our democracy”;

WHEREAS, in its statement the Town Board further asserted that it was “deeply disturbed and disheartened” by the violent insurrection and pledged to “stand in total solidarity against the violent storming of the Capitol, ... a beacon of democracy that we hold most sacred”;

WHEREAS, the Town Board further avowed that it “stands in total opposition to this destructive, divisive, and violent behavior”;

WHEREAS, the Town of Bedford values democratic institutions, the peaceful transfer of power, and political processes that are inherently important to the welfare and safety of this nation; and

WHEREAS, the Town is committed to standing firmly against hate and extremism, and adopts this Resolution;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Bedford hereby:

1. Affirmatively condemns the acts of violence and insurrection that occurred in and around the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021;
2. Commits to upholding democratic values and institutions, governing by example; and
3. Supports public and private entities in the Town of Bedford, notably the libraries, promoting civics programs and community education that will strengthen our community and imbue its members with an understanding of democratic principles, developing well-informed, active participants in civic life.