



City of Seattle
Mayor Jenny A. Durkan

November 14, 2019

Secretary Michael R. Pompeo
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington DC, 20520

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

This letter is in reference to Executive Order 13888, "*On Enhancing State and Local Involvement in Resettlement.*" **Please note that communication about, or participation in, the implementation of Executive Order (EO) 13888 is not an endorsement of the legality of the EO.**

As Mayor of Seattle, I consent to initial refugee resettlement in the City of Seattle as per the terms of the Executive Order.

Seattle is not afraid of immigrants and refugees. In fact, we have always welcomed people who have faced tremendous hardships around the world. Immigrants and refugees are part of Seattle's heritage, and they will continue to make us the city of the future.

In Seattle, we know that our immigrant and refugee communities make our city a stronger, more vibrant place. Our immigrant neighbors make up more than 18 percent of our population, and [22 percent](#) of our population speaks a language other than English at home. They create businesses and jobs. They create art and culture. They help teach our kids, serve in law enforcement and the military, and lead our places of faith.

Our immigrant and refugee neighbors have helped Seattle become [the fastest-growing big city](#) in the country and become home to some of the world's most iconic companies. And we know that today's immigrants are tomorrow's Americans citizens who should have the chance to contribute to the economic, cultural and civic life of Seattle — and our nation.

Seattle is a Welcoming City, and as Mayor, I wholeheartedly and enthusiastically consent to refugee resettlement in our great city.

Sincerely,

Jenny A. Durkan
Mayor of Seattle

CC:

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Carol T. O'Connell, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration,
U.S. Department of State

Sarah Peterson, Washington State Refugee Coordinator