



City of Cambridge

3.

IN CITY COUNCIL
March 28, 1994

MAYOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge supports the preservation of freedom throughout the world, the maxim "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice anywhere" being universally relevant; and

WHEREAS: The Draft Law for the Revision of the Romanian Penal Code, currently under consideration by the Romanian Chamber of Deputies, threatens to contravene the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which has been ratified and adopted by Romania; and

WHEREAS: Article 200, Paragraph 1 of the Draft Law states: "Sexual relations between persons of the same sex, if they cause public scandal, are punishable by one to five years imprisonment;" and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge is concerned that such a statute would violate the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights by allowing the prosecution of consenting adults because of their private activities, acts which are not illegal for heterosexual adults; and

WHEREAS: Such a statute would further represent an unnecessary infringement of the privacy of Romanian citizens, an interference which is not in keeping with the spirit of democracy; and

WHEREAS: Paragraph 5 of the same Article states: "Enticing or seducing a person to practice acts contained in the above paragraphs as well as propaganda, associations or other forms of proselytizing carried out with the same aim are punishable by one to five years' imprisonment;" and

WHEREAS: The implementation of so vague and sweeping a statute could seriously interfere with the rights of Romanian people to freedom of assembly, expression and association; and

WHEREAS: Other articles of the Draft Law criminalize outrage, defamation of the state or nation, and dissemination of false news, statutes which could seriously abjure the freedom of the domestic and international press in Romania; and

WHEREAS: These articles taken together represent a vivid retreat from the fundamental principles of human rights; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this Cambridge City Council does hereby join Amnesty International in urging the Chamber of Deputies to reject the proposed Draft Law, and to ensure that the penal laws of Romania uphold the rights to privacy, freedom of conscience, freedom of expression, and the right to information as guaranteed by the Constitution of Romania and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward this resolution to the Romanian Ambassador to the United States.

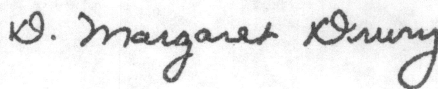
In City Council March 28, 1994.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "D. Margaret Drury".

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



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- WHEREAS: Paragraph 5 of the same Article states: "Enticing or seducing a person to practice acts contained in the above paragraphs as well as propaganda, associations or other forms of proselytizing carried out with the same aim are punishable by one to five years' imprisonment;" and
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Trinitapillon

Consent Order #3

R 209

Mayor Reeves re: The Draft Law for
the Revision of the Romanian Penal
Code.

Order Adopted

In City Council,

March 28, 1994