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Submission for Council Packet

1 message

Stephannie Cleary <stephacleary@gmail.com>
To: citycouncil@ci.stevenson.wa.us

Wed, Aug 11, 2021 at 10:42 AM

Hello,

I'm emailing a message to be included in the Council packet to be read at the Council meeting on Thursday, August 12th.

This issue is absolutely one of respect-- but not for an inanimate flag that can represent different things. This is an issue of respect for the living, breathing people and those who died for this country that make up this community and country. Annie McHale is an elected representative who yes, represents constituents. But those constituents will never agree, and all of them are allowed to have different opinions on standing and stating the pledge. Just because one- or even more- constituents think she "should" stand is irrelevant. That is a value judgement, not something based upon law and fact. There is no law that requires American citizens-- citizens who are governed by a democracy, not an autocracy-- to stand for a pledge that in it's modern form only came to being in 1954.

If constituents believe in standing for the pledge, that is their right. If constituents believe in not standing for the pledge, in protest or otherwise, that is also their right. Attempting to bully someone into submission is not the "America" soldiers have died to defend, and as a city council you should *only* be concerned about "standing" if it is standing to protect our citizens from being persecuted or harassed for their beliefs, even if they are not shared by you. That is respect. That is being American.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Stephannie Cleary