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## Please include in Council Packet

1 message

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**Sofia U-L** <sofia.urrutialopez@gmail.com>

Thu, Aug 12, 2021 at 9:02 AM

To: City Council <citycouncil@ci.stevenson.wa.us>, Nick Hogan <leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Hello all,

When did the Council meetings become a place to debate morals, beliefs, and standards? I have entrusted the City Council to come to each meeting ready to do their job as representatives with the knowledge of the topics at hand and to remain logical when speaking on important city matters. Instead community members (even those outside of Stevenson city limits) are judging and pressing their beliefs on a singled out council member. Why do they get to choose when it isn't right to wear masks and say "my body, my choice" and yet when someone sits for the Pledge of Allegiance, it becomes something that should be required. If that person doesn't stand, these community members ask for the singled out member to resign. This is a double standard. Council meetings are not courts. No one should be cross examined about their personal beliefs. Are we going to put every single council member on "trial" asking what their (very) personal beliefs and morals are?

This non-issue has become a problem causing a "war" on social media and within the council members. This is further causing a division that this community is already suffering. I've elected these City Council members to do their job and to leave the debate of personal beliefs at home.

Participating in the Pledge of Allegiance is not a requirement by law, it shouldn't be, so please get back to the heart and purpose of these meetings. Until this is a law, it is a non-issue.

Thank you for your time.

**Cheers,**  
**Sofia**