Resolution regarding the Black Lives Matter protest at the Mall of America

Passed by Education Minnesota Governing Board on March 14, 2015

Peaceful protest is a cornerstone of social change in our democracy. From the labor movement, to the women’s movement, and the civil rights movement, major change in this country has always included peaceful demonstrations.

The #BlackLivesMatter movement is pointing out the structural racial inequalities that persist in our society. Much like other social movements, #BlackLivesMatter is engaging in nonviolent protest to help point out these inequalities.

By prosecuting protest organizers, local authorities are sending a message that a minor inconvenience trumps the right to peacefully assemble. Minnesota’s labor movement is urging Bloomington City Attorney Sandra Johnson to correct this wrong by choosing not to prosecute these peaceful activists.