

**From:** Denise Fenton

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:08:54 PM

**To:** Matthew Reed <[District8@Appleton.org](mailto:District8@Appleton.org)>; Kristin Alfheim <[District11@Appleton.org](mailto:District11@Appleton.org)>; Brad Firkus <[District3@Appleton.org](mailto:District3@Appleton.org)>; Maiyoua Thao <[District7@Appleton.org](mailto:District7@Appleton.org)>; Nate Wolff <[District12@Appleton.org](mailto:District12@Appleton.org)>

**Subject:** Constituent remarks - Resolution #13-R-21

Good afternoon colleagues,

I am forwarding these remarks sent to me by my constituent Jeanne Roberts regarding this resolution. I plan to ask your indulgence to read them at the meeting this afternoon, but I wanted you to have them as well.

Apologies for the delay in getting this out, but I have been experiencing some travel issues and arrived at my daughter's in Arkansas just a little while ago.

Ms. Roberts' remarks:

*I understand that this committee is considering a resolution to support World Relief's efforts to settle 100 Afghanis into the Fox Valley area. As a retired mental health counselor, I had the opportunity to work with refugees from several countries. In my work with refugees both before and after retirement I have felt honored to be in their presence and feel the strength, courage and dignity of these people. The horrendous events that they have experienced from having a child shot off their back while they were fleeing, to having a husband and son shot in front of them, to being left alone as a child in the jungle for the greater good of the community and then to not only survive that experience, but given a chance in a new country to thrive and become productive citizens without any knowledge of the culture or language of their new country shows me what kind of incredible human beings these are. Prior to being resettled, all refugees are thoroughly vetted in a process that takes at least 18 months. They are expected to become employed and self-sufficient in a very short period of time. Appleton has a history of supporting the resettlement of refugees from Laos (Hmong), Congo, Myanmar, and more. We in Appleton should be proud of our recent history to support the refugee communities and continue to support any refugee or family and who is settled in our area and the agency that arranges for this resettlement.*

Best regards,

*Denise*

Denise Fenton

Aldersperson, Appleton District 6

(920) 475-1603

[District6@Appleton.org](mailto:District6@Appleton.org)

Please note: Wisconsin has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from government employees and officials regarding city/county business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your e-mail communication may be subject to public disclosure.