Dear Secretary Pompeo and Deputy Assistant Secretary O’Connell:

This letter is in reference to Executive Order 13888, “On Enhancing State and Local Involvement in Resettlement.” Please note that communication about, or participation in, the implementation of Executive Order (EO) 13888 is not an endorsement of the legality of the EO.

I write to affirm that the City of Salem, Massachusetts will continue to take part in the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP). As Mayor of the City of Salem, I consent to initial refugee resettlement in our city as per the terms of the Executive Order. This consent is valid unless or until it is withdrawn.

The USRAP is a prime example of a public-private partnership between the federal government, state and local governments, local non-profit organizations, and volunteers that provides refugees with the tools of self-reliance: housing, community orientation, English-language classes, and job placement. Refugees are resilient, hardworking people whose innovative skills have contributed greatly to our city. They have opened businesses, revitalized neighborhoods, and are productive members of our community. Multiple studies demonstrate that refugees are economic contributors and job creators. For these reasons and more, the City of Salem will continue to welcome refugees.

Sincerely,

Kimberley Driscoll
Mayor
City of Salem

CC: U.S. Rep. Seth Moulton
U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren
U.S. Senator Edward Markey
Salem City Council