



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
Cook County Building, Board Room, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois

Second Consent Agenda

for the

Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, July 1, 2015, 11:00 AM

15-4272

Sponsored by: JESÚS G. GARCÍA, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

WHEREAS, on July 26, 1990, our nation committed itself to the elimination of discrimination against people with disabilities through the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); and

WHEREAS, in 1986, the National Council on Disability (NCD) recommended enactment of an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and drafted the first version of the bill which was introduced in the House and Senate in 1988; and

WHEREAS, after the spectacular Senate vote of 76 to 8 on September 7, 1989, the Bill went to the House where it was considered by an unprecedented four Committees and later approved and signed as a law; and

WHEREAS, the ADA began with the establishment of the independent living movement, which challenged the notion that people with disabilities needed to be institutionalized, and which fought for and provided services for people with disabilities to live in the community; and

WHEREAS, the hard work and the coalescing of lawyers and advocates, top level negotiators and policy analysts, disability organizations, lobbyists, protesters, witnesses, and many more groups from all areas of the country formed the disability rights movement to help the passage of the ADA; and

WHEREAS, people with disabilities went to Washington D.C. to talk to members of Congress, to advocate for the Bill, and to explain why each provision was necessary while others wrote letters, attended town meetings, and made endless phone calls; and

WHEREAS, for the first time, the exclusion and segregation of people with disabilities was viewed as discrimination; and

WHEREAS, before the ADA, no federal law prohibited private sector discrimination against people with disabilities, outside a federal grant or contract; and

WHEREAS, the ADA is a wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits discrimination based on a disability and offers similar protections against discrimination to Americans with disabilities as the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which made discrimination based on race, religion, sex, national origin, and other characteristics illegal; and

WHEREAS, the ADA protects people with both mental and physical disabilities regardless of the severity or permanency of such disability; and

WHEREAS, the ADA requires covered employers to provide reasonable accommodations to employees with disabilities, and imposes accessibility requirements on public accommodations; and

WHEREAS, the ADA was created on a basic presumption that people with disabilities want to work and capable members of their communities and that exclusion and segregation cannot be tolerated; and

WHEREAS, due to the passage of the ADA, persons with a disability continue to be treated with dignity and accommodating them is no longer a matter of charity; but a basic issue of civil rights.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does, hereby joins the rest of the country in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the monumental signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body.

15-4283

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING EUGENE F. SCOTT

WHEREAS, Colonel Eugene Frederick Scott was born October 14, 1939 in Miami Florida; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Eugene F. Scott was raised in Chicago and attended A.D. Sexton Elementary School and Englewood High School where he was a sharpshooter in the ROTC; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Eugene F. Scott graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in Miami, Florida in 1957; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Eugene F. Scott continued in ROTC in Florida A&M University where he graduated with a B.A. in political science in 1961, and in 1962 he entered the United States Army as a Second Lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Eugene F. Scott served in the U.S. Army from 1962-1990 retiring as a Post Commander for two major U.S. Army installations and earning numerous awards and decorations, including the Legion of Merit, Combat Infantryman Badge and two Bronze Stars, among other; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Eugene F. Scott joined Sengstacke Enterprises in 1991 as executive assistant to John H.H. Sengstacke, managed the company's five newspapers for more than ten years and served as general manager and publisher of the Chicago Daily Defender; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Eugene F. Scott assumed full duties and responsibilities of the Chicago Defender Charities in 2003 as president and Chairman of the board of the Bud Billiken Parade, the nation's largest back-to-school parade; and

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that Colonel Eugene F. Scott, President of the Chicago Defender Charities has participated in the Parade since his youth; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Eugene F. Scott and his wife, Beverly, a former Chicago Defender columnist, worked together to revitalize the Bud Billiken Parade; and the Bud Billiken Scholars and Sustainable Futures program has generated \$1.5 million for educational financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Eugene F. Scott has served on numerous boards and committees and is a strong advocate for Veterans in Illinois and nationwide, serving as chairman of the National African-American Military Museum and the Illinois Secretary of State's Veterans Advisory Committee among many others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Toni Preckwinkle, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, do hereby offer my sincere thanks and appreciation to Colonel Eugene F. Scott for his 50 years of service to our country and our communities and, do designate July 1, 2015 to be "Colonel Eugene F. Scott Day" in Cook County.

15-4285

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE EQUALITY

WHEREAS, all citizens are afforded equal protections and rights before the law; and

WHEREAS, LGBT citizens founded The Society for Human Rights, the first gay rights organization in 1924 by Henry Gerber in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, in 1962 Illinois became the first U.S. state to decriminalize homosexuality; and

WHEREAS, all people regardless of their sexual orientation benefit from fulfilling and meaningful relationships that are epitomized in their public and legal recognition through marriage; and

WHEREAS, LGBT citizens have long challenged the denial of marriage; since Baker v. Nelson; where a Minnesota couple was denied a marriage license by the Hennepin County District Court's clerk on May 18, 1970 and upheld in 1972 by the U.S. Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, on December 3, 1996, following the world's first-ever trial on the freedom to marry, led by co-counsel Dan Foley and Evan Wolfson, Judge Kevin Chang rules that the state did not have a legitimate reason for depriving same-sex couples of the freedom to marry; and

WHEREAS, in August 2010 CNN released the first poll to show a national majority supporting the freedom to marry. The poll asked, "Do you think gays and lesbians should have a constitutional right to get married and have their marriage recognized by law as valid?," and 52 percent of the respondents said yes, with only 46 percent saying no; and

WHEREAS, Illinois Governor Pat Quinn signed a civil union bill into law on January 31, 2011 and is approved by the state Senate and House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2012 President Barack Obama became the first sitting president in the United States to publicly announce support for the freedom to marry; and

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2013 Governor Pat Quinn signed the freedom to marry into law in Illinois after it was approved earlier in the year by the Illinois Senate and House. Same-sex couples were scheduled to begin marrying in Illinois in June 2014, until a federal judge ruled in favor of the freedom to marry in February 2014 in a case brought by Lambda Legal, moving the start date in many Illinois counties earlier; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2015 The United States Supreme Court rules in favor of the freedom to marry in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, striking down marriage bans in the remaining 13 states that continued to discriminate and opening the freedom to marry to same-sex couples nationwide, at last; and

WHEREAS, in the United States of America freedom means freedom for everyone; and

WHEREAS, marriage strengthens families and gives couples the tools and security they need.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Toni Preckwinkle, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, do hereby laud the LGBT community for its steadfast commitment to equality and recognize that the right to marry is to be honored as a right afforded to all regardless of who they love.

15-4298

Sponsored by: JESÚS G. GARCÍA, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN MEMORY OF RODOLFO “RUDY” AVIÑA

WHEREAS, Rodolfo “Rudy” Aviña was born on June 19, 1971 in Michoacán, México, son of Luis Aviña and Esperanza Arevalo; and

WHEREAS, Rudy, as his family and friends affectionately called him, was the middle child of a loving family that included his siblings Ana, Luis, Adriana and Esperanza; and

WHEREAS, Rudy’s family settled in Chicago’s Pilsen neighborhood, which remained his home and the place to where he devoted much of his time; and

WHEREAS, Rudy attended Peter Cooper Elementary, Cooper Upper Grade Center, Whitney Young High School, and the University of Illinois at Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Rudy had a passion for music that began with his fascination of the New Wave music movement, prompting him to buy his first synthesizer and learn guitar and later percussion; and

WHEREAS, Rudy learned the art of framing while in high school and opened Creativo Framing in 1994, where he gained the loyalty of individual, corporate and museum clients; and

WHEREAS, Rudy and Leticia Gutierrez, proud parents of Mia (1997), Carlos (1998) and Sofia (2000), developed healthy relationships with their children, who saw Rudy not simply as a father but as their best friend; and

WHEREAS, Rudy loved the arts, was creative and enjoyed building things, including a child bassinet for his daughter Mia, which surprised everyone due to the detail and beauty of the woodwork; and

WHEREAS, Rudy was often described as a kind and gentle soul with an infectious smile, who wanted to take care of the earth and live a life of peace and harmony with those around him; and

WHEREAS, Rudy always sought to play an active role in the lives of his loved ones by spending time with his mother and taking his children on camping trips to teach them to respect the earth; and

WHEREAS, Rudy had a deep respect and reverence for Mesoamerican and Native American cultures and traditions; and

WHEREAS, Rudy's life ended too soon on May 30, 2015 at the age of 43 and is survived by his children Mia, Carlos and Sofia, his mother Esperanza, his siblings Ana, Luis, Adriana, Esperanza, and his fiancé Erin, and was preceded in death by his father, Luis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, does hereby offer its deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Rodolfo "Rudy" Aviña and joins them in sorrow at this time of loss; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to the family of Rodolfo "Rudy" Aviña so that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.