



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Cook County Building, Board Room,
118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

BOARD NOTICE AND AGENDA

Thursday, May 15, 2025, 9:00 AM

Consent Agenda - Issued on: 5/8/2025

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Authorization as a public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have registered to speak, with the Secretary, 24 hours in advance of the meeting. To register as a public speaker, go to the meeting details page for this meeting at <https://cook-county.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx> to find a registration link. Duly authorized public speakers may speak live from the County Board Room at 118 N. Clark Street, 5th Floor, Chicago, IL or be sent a link to virtually attend the meeting and will be called upon to deliver testimony at a time specified in the meeting agenda. Authorized public speakers who are not present during the specified time for public testimony will forfeit their allotted time to speak at the meeting. Public testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. After each virtual speaker has completed their statement, they will be removed from the meeting. Once removed, you will still be able to follow the proceedings for that day at:

<https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings> or in a viewing area at 69 W. Washington Street, 22nd Floor Conference Room D, Chicago, IL. Persons authorized to provide public testimony shall not use vulgar, abusive, or otherwise inappropriate language when addressing the Board; failure to act appropriately; failure to speak to an item that is germane to the meeting, or failure to adhere to the time requirements may result in expulsion from the meeting and/or disqualify the person from providing future testimony. Written comments will not be read aloud at the meeting, but will be posted on the meeting page and made a part of the meeting record.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Pursuant to Cook County Code, the Secretary to the Board of Commissioners hereby transmits Consent Calendar Resolutions for your consideration. The Consent Calendar Resolutions shall be published in the Post Board Action Agenda and Journal of Proceedings as prepared by the Clerk of the Board.

[25-2651](#)

Sponsored by: BILL LOWRY and TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION HONORING THE REMARKABLE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MYLES LEE REED SR.

WHEREAS, it is both fitting and proper that the Cook County Board of Commissioners pauses to recognize and celebrate the extraordinary life and enduring contributions of Myles Lee Reed Sr., who was born on January 26, 1925, in Lorman, Mississippi - a man distinguished by an unshakable faith, a profound commitment to community, and a tireless devotion to the uplift of his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Myles Lee Reed Sr., the devoted husband of the late Barbara Nell Wilkerson Reed, was also the loving and guiding patriarch to his children - Myles Lee Jr., Frank, Darryl, Brenda, Ronald, and Claude - exemplifying the virtues of steadfast fatherhood and principled leadership within his family and beyond; and

WHEREAS, as a young man, Mr. Reed migrated to Omaha, Nebraska, where he would embark on the foundational chapters of a life characterized by purpose, resilience, and service. In his formative years, he nobly answered the call of duty, serving in the United States Army, and upon completing his service, availed himself of the GI Bill to pursue higher education. At the University of Nebraska, he pledged the esteemed Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education - a testament to his unwavering belief in the power of education and fraternity; and

WHEREAS, in the late 1950s, Mr. Reed relocated to the great city of Chicago, Illinois, where he raised his growing family and continued his dedication to professional and civic advancement. He distinguished himself as a Job Development Specialist and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Officer, and furthered his advocacy through instrumental roles at institutions such as the Olivet Institute, Jobs Now Project, and the Borg-Warner Corporation - where, notably, he served as one of the first Black executives in the 1960s; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Reed's professional acumen was matched only by his civic engagement, as he worked closely with organizations like the Chicago Urban League and the Ada S. McKinley Foundation to dismantle barriers to opportunity and promote economic empowerment throughout the South Side of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, profoundly civic-minded and deeply invested in the betterment of his community, Mr. Reed twice campaigned for the position of Alderman in Chicago's 21st Ward - a reflection of his enduring commitment to equitable representation and the democratic process; and

WHEREAS, a man of both intellect and athletic prowess, Mr. Reed played semi-professional baseball with the Dukes of the Washington Park Baseball League well into his early forties, and generously

shared his expertise and mentorship as a coach of the Orioles of the Jackie Robinson West Little League - nurturing the athletic and personal growth of countless youth in Brainard Park; and

WHEREAS, as a current resident of Chicago's Fifth Ward, Mr. Reed is not only celebrated for the longevity of his life, now having surpassed the remarkable milestone of 100 years, but also for the indelible impact he has made on generations of Chicagoans through his wisdom, moral clarity, and enduring acts of service; and

WHEREAS, his century-long journey through American life bears witness to the transformative power of perseverance, education, family, faith, and public service - qualities that define a legacy which continues to inspire those who have the privilege of knowing him; and

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, BILL LOWRY, COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER OF THE 3rd DISTRICT, AND TONI PRECKWINKLE, PRESIDENT OF THE COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER, assembled this day, does hereby extend its highest commendation and most heartfelt congratulations to Myles Lee Reed Sr. for reaching the extraordinary milestone of 100 years of life and for his decades of invaluable service, leadership, and unwavering commitment to the community, the city, and the county he calls home; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be presented to Myles Lee Reed Sr. and his family as a permanent testament to his monumental contributions and as a symbol of the profound esteem in which he is held by the people of the **Office of Cook County Commissioner Bill Lowry 3rd**.

[25-2752](#)

Sponsored by: BILL LOWRY and TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MALIK T. MURRAY

WHEREAS, Malik T. Murray was a distinguished leader, visionary professional, and beloved son of Cook County whose profound contributions to business, education, and community empowerment leaves a lasting legacy across Chicago and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Malik T. Murray exemplified the highest ideals of service, leadership, and compassion, leaving an indelible imprint upon the City of Chicago, Cook County, and the countless lives he touched through his professional excellence, philanthropic endeavors, and personal generosity; and

WHEREAS, Malik was born and raised in the South Shore neighborhood of Chicago, the cherished son of the Honorable Leonard Murray, Judge of the Cook County Circuit Court, and the late Linda Diane Gray Murray, a respected educator whose influence inspired Malik's lifelong commitment to education, equity, and civic service; and

WHEREAS, Malik's journey of excellence began at St. Philip Neri Elementary School and continued at St. Ignatius College Prep, where he distinguished himself as a scholar-athlete, embodying the Ignatian ideal of being a "Man for Others" through academic achievement and athletic excellence; and

WHEREAS, Malik pursued higher education at DePaul University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in finance, competed as a four-year letter winner on the men's basketball team, and later obtained an MBA in finance from the Kellstadt Graduate School of Business, demonstrating a lifelong commitment to intellectual and professional growth; and

WHEREAS, Malik built an extraordinary career in finance, beginning at Bank One Brokerage and culminating at Ariel Investments, where he faithfully served for over two decades as Senior Vice President and Head of Business Development, distinguished by his strategic vision, principled leadership, and client-first philosophy; and

WHEREAS, Malik's influence extended far beyond his professional success, as he selflessly mentored aspiring leaders, championed diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, and cultivated opportunities for underserved communities throughout Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Malik's devotion to education was demonstrated through his board service at DePaul University and St. Ignatius College Prep, where he not only provided strategic guidance but also established two transformative endowments - the Linda Diane Gray Murray Excellence Through Education, Equity and Inclusion Endowment at St. Ignatius, and a scholarship at DePaul promoting excellence in basketball and finance; and

WHEREAS, Malik's profound generosity, humility, and compassion earned him universal admiration, while his legacy of mentorship, community leadership, and public service will continue to inspire future generations; and

WHEREAS, the untimely passing of Malik T. Murray at the age of 50 is a tremendous loss to his family, friends, colleagues at Ariel Investments, and the broader community that he served with such devotion and love;

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, BILL LOWRY, COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER OF THE 3rd DISTRICT, AND TONI PRECKWINKLE, PRESIDENT OF THE COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, does hereby celebrate the extraordinary life and enduring contributions of Malik T. Murray, whose impact will continue to shape our community for years to come; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners extends its deepest and most heartfelt condolences to Malik's father, Leonard Murray; his sisters, Nubia Murray Davis and Kai Murray; his brother, Kamau Murray; and all who were privileged to know and love him; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be presented to the family of Malik T. Murray as a lasting tribute to his remarkable legacy and in grateful acknowledgment of his exceptional life of service of the **Office of Cook County Commissioner Bill Lowry 3rd**.

[25-2738](#)

Sponsored by: DONNA MILLER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF REVEREND DAVID BIGSBY

WHEREAS, David Bigsby was born in Marietta, Georgia, in 1945, and his father was a preacher and a “giver,”; and

WHEREAS, from 1963 to 1967, Mr. Bigsby attended Morehouse College before entering the U.S. Army, where he was a paratrooper serving in Vietnam during the Vietnam War and was awarded a Bronze Star and honorably discharged in 1969 at the rank of staff sergeant; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Bigsby earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Northwest Missouri State University in 1975, and after college after college he worked in the insurance field, earning a CLU (Chartered Life Underwriter) designation from American College in 1979; and

WHEREAS, eventually he accepted his calling to preach, something he was born to do, and in 1985, Reverend Bigsby preached his first professional sermon during service on Thanksgiving morning at Calvary Baptist Church in Glenwood, IL and about a decade later, in 1994, he became pastor of the church; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Bigsby would go on to found and lead In the Upper Room Ministries (ITURM) missionary Baptist Church in Lansing, IL; and

WHEREAS, in Lansing, the Reverend may be best known for his involvement in helping to develop a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Village of Lansing, Lansing Police Department, Lansing Community Coalition, and the NAACP Chicago Far South Suburban Branch when the Village and police leadership were at odds with community members over an incident in which an off-duty white police officer physically pinned a 15-year-old Black teen to the ground for trespassing on his lawn; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Bigsby fought for social justice in many ways, travelling to the state and national capitols to lobby for legislation and funding that could engender equity in schools and the local community, and he fought against racial profiling and systemic racism; and

WHEREAS, for many years until 2009, Reverend Bigsby served as the president of South Suburban Action Conference, actively pursuing and involved in social, civic, and educational parity in the south suburbs, pushing for issues such as the proposed airport in Peotone; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Bigsby served at some time as president or vice president of the following organizations: South Suburban Action Council, African American Leadership Commission, a national

organization dedicated to development of clergy in social justice advocacy, Gamaliel National Clergy Caucus and several other branches of the Gamaliel organization, PEACE “People Engaged in Advancing Community Enrichment” in the South Suburbs, Lansing Ministers Alliance, and the Lansing Community Coalition; and

WHEREAS, for all of his work, in 2023 Reverend Bigsby received the President’s Award from the NAACP Chicago Far South Suburban Branch; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Bigsby enjoyed spending time with his family over the holidays, loved soul food, and was passionate about his Cadillacs, keeping his Eldorado or DeVille in pristine condition; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Bigsby was a good man, a loved man and faithful in his ministry and his church and humble man of God; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Bigsby transitioned into eternity on April 22, 2025. He was married for 53 years to Gloria Bigsby before her death in 2023. He is survived by his son, David Maurice Bigsby (Natasha Bigsby), and his daughter, Ingrid Nicole Colon (John Colon), and four grandchildren and will truly be missed by all;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby honor the life of Reverend David Bigsby as a distinguished member of the community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and a suitable copy be presented to the family of Reverend David Bigsby so that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[25-2739](#)

Sponsored by: DONNA MILLER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH IN COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, May is National Military Appreciation Month, introduced by late Senator John McCain and designated by Congress in 1999, which gives our nation the opportunity to honor the service and sacrifice of servicemembers and their families; and

WHEREAS, not only do we reflect on Memorial Day the sacrifice and service of those who gave all, but the month also marks several other military anniversaries and events, including Military Spouse Appreciation Day, Loyalty Day, VE Day, Public Service Recognition Week, and Armed Forces Day; and

WHEREAS, this month as we celebrate current and former members of our military and their families, it is important to encourage all citizens to observe the month as a symbol of unity and recognize that as Americans we have more in common than not; and

WHEREAS, we honor the sacrifice of generations of military men and women by our commitment to community and country, and to preserving our freedoms and our democracy they so valiantly fought and continue to fight to protect; and

WHEREAS, Loyalty Day (May 1st) is a day for the reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States, and to reflect on the proud heritage of our American freedom; and

WHEREAS, Public Service Recognition Week (the 1st full week in May) is set aside to honor the men and women who serve our nation as federal, state, county, and local government employees; and

WHEREAS, Victory in Europe Day or VE Day is observed May 8th to recognize May 8th, 1945 as the day when Germans throughout Europe unconditionally surrendered to the Allies marking the end of World War II in Europe; and

WHEREAS, Military Spouse Appreciation Day recognized on the Friday before Mother's Day is set aside to honor military spouses and recognizes the important role our military families play in keeping our Armed Forces strong and our country safe; and

WHEREAS, Armed Forces Day, celebrated on the third Saturday in May every year, honors everyone serving in the U.S. Military branches; Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy, and Space Force; and

WHEREAS, Memorial Day observed on the last Monday in May, commemorates the men and women who died while in military service; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners are pleased to celebrate and honor our active and veteran military members past and present throughout the month of May;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, in solidarity with National Military Appreciation Month, hereby commemorates May 2025 as Military Appreciation Month in Cook County; and

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

[25-2756](#)

Sponsored by: DONNA MILLER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. CHERYL F. GREEN

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom called from our midst, Dr. Cheryl F. Green, Governors State University's sixth President, on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, following a lengthy illness; and

WHEREAS, at a young age, Dr. Green learned her life's purpose when she served as a literacy tutor and saw firsthand the disparities in education. She earned her Ph.D. in Psychology and later went on to fulfill her dream of impacting communities by serving students in higher education across several states, including Indiana, Tennessee, and Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Green was passionate about community, education, and student success. For more than thirty years, she devoted her time and talent to transforming lives through the power of higher education and removing barriers to marginalized communities; and

WHEREAS, never one to shy away from a challenge, Dr. Green took the reins as President of Governors State University at the height of the pandemic in July of 2020. As the University's first African American president, she made historic moves elevating the visibility of the institution, while creating opportunities and removing barriers to education; and

WHEREAS, a native of Chicago's South Side, Dr. Green considered the president's role at Governors State University a dream come true and often said it was the culmination of all her life's work. She was committed to cementing the University's reputation as the "jewel of the Southland" and was known to engage staff and students with humor and candor, empathy and compassion. It was not uncommon for her to use personal funds to assist a student in need; and

WHEREAS, she led the effort to ensure the University established a free-standing Social Justice Initiative to address barriers to social mobility, equity, and justice. The Latinx Resource Center was established under her direction to support and nurture the growing Latinx student population; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Green secured the University's largest private donation in history; created the Honors College and the College of Graduate Studies at Governors State University; and brought the Illinois Black Hall of Fame to Governors State University; and

WHEREAS, the legacy of Dr. Green, a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, will forever live on through her work to establish institutions on campus, including the first Greek-lettered organizations on campus; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Green was committed to making a difference and education was her priority. She also was committed to serving her community through work on several corporate and community boards across the nation; and

WHEREAS, off campus, Dr. Green embraced her passion for the arts and reading that was instilled in her as a child. Dr. Green loved history and often infused speeches with historical references to Black history and Latin American history, as well as quotes from historical giants such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Nelson Mandela, and Confucius. She was tremendously proud of her two adult children and often spoke fondly of her extensive family; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Green, was a beloved child, sister, mother, friend and has left a lasting legacy of service. She will truly be missed by all;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby honor the life of Dr. Cheryl F. Green as a distinguished member of the community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and a suitable copy be presented to the family of Dr. Cheryl F. Green so that her memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[25-2806](#)

Sponsored by: DONNA MILLER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING MICHELLE HARRIS ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

WHEREAS, Michelle Harris has served with distinction as Executive Assistant to Commissioner Donna Miller since the Commissioner assumed office in December 2018, playing a vital role in ensuring the efficient, compassionate, and professional operation of the 6th District office; and

WHEREAS, Michelle's journey in public service began immediately after graduating high school in the 1970s, when a local precinct captain encouraged her to apply for a position at the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office. She accepted the opportunity and began working at the Cook County Morgue, located at 2121 W. Harrison Street in Chicago-a facility later named the Robert J. Stein Institute of Forensic Medicine. Under the leadership of Chief Toxicologist Dr. Michael Schaffer, Michelle served for approximately three years, embracing the role with courage, diligence, and grace; and

WHEREAS, Michelle's career reflects a deep commitment to the public good and civic leadership. Over the years, she has served and supported numerous prominent leaders in government, transportation, and the nonprofit sector, including her work under the Office of the Governor from 2003 to 2007; at Amtrak, where she contributed to State & Local Government Affairs; at the Chicago Urban League from 2007 to 2010, supporting then-President and CEO Cheryl Jackson; and later at AAR from 2010 to 2017, assisting senior leadership in Global Business Development. Her behind-the-scenes excellence and ability to carry out complex responsibilities with precision made her an indispensable asset in every role she held; and

WHEREAS, throughout her many years of service, Michelle Harris has been known for her sharp intellect, unwavering diligence, and generous spirit, making her not only an asset to every organization she has touched but a beloved colleague and friend; and

WHEREAS, Michelle is a woman of deep faith and community, having been a devoted member of Cosmopolitan Church of Prayer at 5842 S. Indiana Avenue under the leadership of Pastor Derail V. Smith since 1960, where she has faithfully served on the Board of Deaconess and as Chair of Finance; and

WHEREAS, Michelle's personal life has been marked by resilience and love. She is the proud mother of Ariell Renée Harris, and though her beloved husband, William Harris, passed away in 2020, she carries forward his memory with strength, grace, and a steadfast commitment to family; and

WHEREAS, after decades of dedicated public service across multiple sectors and institutions, Michelle Harris is retiring, leaving behind a remarkable legacy of leadership, loyalty, and integrity that will continue to inspire all who had the pleasure of working alongside her;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and Cook County Board of

Commissioners does hereby recognize and commend Michelle Harris for her outstanding and selfless service to Cook County, the State of Illinois, and her community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Michelle Harris with sincere gratitude and best wishes for joy, rest, and fulfillment in her well-earned retirement.

[25-2353](#)

Sponsored by: STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN HONOR OF CLARENCE L. AND MARY F. BROOKINS 75TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, Clarence L. and Mary F. Brookins, residents of Lansing, Illinois, will celebrate their Diamond Jubilee Wedding Anniversary on May 6, 2025, marking an extraordinary milestone in their lives; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of seventy-five years of marriage is a rare and remarkable achievement, recognized by the United States Census Bureau, which estimates that Clarence and Mary are among fewer than 1,000 couples in the entire United States to reach this incredible milestone; and

WHEREAS, Clarence L. Brookins after graduating from high school, went on to become the pastor and founder of True Foundation Missionary Baptist Church, where he served for over fifty years with dedication and love; and

WHEREAS, Clarence L. Brookins is a retired Cook County Sheriff, contributing greatly to his community; and

WHEREAS, Mary F. Brookins, a devoted partner, earned her associate's degree from Chicago State University and made significant contributions to the fields of insurance, health care, and education while also maintaining their household; and

WHEREAS, over the course of their long and fulfilling marriage, Clarence and Mary have raised a loving and close-knit family, consisting of eight children, twenty grandchildren, thirty-five great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren, all of whom have been deeply influenced by their wisdom, values, and love; and

WHEREAS, as a community, we honor the strength, commitment, and example set by Clarence and Mary Brookins, whose love, hard work, and dedication have not only shaped their own family but have also left an indelible mark on our village of Lansing, Illinois.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the many residents of Cook County takes great pleasure in honoring and celebrating the 75th wedding anniversary of Clarence L. and Mary F. Brookins and wishes them many more years of happiness together; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy be presented to the Brookins family to honor and cherish their love for each other, their family, and their community.

[25-2715](#)

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON and TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION HONORING EMILIA DIMENCO FOR HER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

WHEREAS, Emilia DiMenco has served with distinction as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Women's Business Development Center (WBDC), one of the oldest, largest, and most impactful women's business assistance centers in the United States; and;

WHEREAS, under Ms. DiMenco's visionary leadership, the WBDC has expanded its reach and deepened its impact, providing critical support to women-owned, minority-owned, and other underserved businesses through entrepreneurship training, financial education, procurement opportunities, and access to capital; and

WHEREAS, Ms. DiMenco was instrumental in forging a powerful partnership between the WBDC and Cook County to create the Cook County Small Business Source, an initiative that has supported thousands of small businesses across the County, particularly those hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, by providing business advising services, grants, and long-term resources to ensure their growth and sustainability; and

WHEREAS, through the Small Business Source, Cook County has centered equity in its small business program and ensures that resources are distributed fairly and effectively across the County -a testament to Ms. DiMenco's commitment to inclusive economic development; and

WHEREAS, Emilia DiMenco has also served as a dedicated and valued member of the Cook County Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC), where her insights and experience have contributed to the betterment of Cook County programs and policy; and

WHEREAS, her tenure has been marked by a tireless dedication to advancing women and minority owned businesses, strengthening public-private partnerships, and fostering a resilient, inclusive economy throughout Cook County and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Emilia DiMenco is now stepping down from her role as President of the Women's Business Development Center, leaving behind a legacy of impact, empowerment, and institutional strength that will continue to benefit generations of small business owners; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby do what you are suggesting or endorsing with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by President Preckwinkle and the Cook County Board of

Commissioners that Emilia DiMenco and hereby recognize and honor for Emilia for her exemplary leadership, her partnership with Cook County, and her steadfast commitment to economic equity and opportunity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be presented to Emilia DiMenco as a token of the County's gratitude and in recognition of her outstanding service to Cook County and its residents.

[25-2807](#)

Sponsored by: MICHAEL SCOTT JR. and STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WHITNEY M. YOUNG MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL

WHEREAS, Whitney M. Young Magnet High School, located at 211 South Laflin Street in Chicago, Illinois, was established on September 3, 1975 as the city's first public magnet high school, named in honor of esteemed civil rights leader Whitney M. Young, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, for five decades, Whitney Young has exemplified academic excellence, embracing its motto, "Where Academic Excellence is the Standard," and fostering a diverse and inclusive environment that nurtures the holistic development of its students; and

WHEREAS, the school has consistently ranked among the top high schools in Illinois and the nation, most recently named the #3 Illinois High School by U.S. News & World Report in 2024, reflecting its rigorous college preparatory curriculum and exceptional faculty; and

WHEREAS, Whitney Young has rightfully earned the title "School of Champions", with an unparalleled legacy of success in academics, athletics, and extracurricular activities, including multiple state championships in basketball, tennis, chess, and a nationally acclaimed Academic Decathlon team that has won the Illinois State Championship 39 times since 1986; and

WHEREAS, Whitney Young has maintained remarkable leadership stability over the past five decades, with only four principals serving the school since its founding-all of whom have been African American-demonstrating a legacy of excellence, consistency, and culturally responsive leadership that has contributed greatly to the school's success; and

WHEREAS, the school proudly counts among its distinguished alumni former First Lady Michelle Obama, as well as leaders across industries who embody the spirit of service and excellence cultivated at Whitney Young-including two current members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, Michael Scott, Jr. and Stanley Moore, both proud graduates of this exceptional institution; and

WHEREAS, the school community-including students, faculty, staff, alumni, and parents-continues to honor the legacy of Whitney M. Young Jr. by championing equity, leadership, civic responsibility, and academic rigor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and Cook County Board of Commissioners does recognize and celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Whitney M. Young Magnet High School, and extends its deepest appreciation for the institution's unwavering commitment to academic excellence, student leadership, and community impact; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Whitney M. Young Magnet High School in honor of this historic milestone and as a tribute to its lasting legacy as one of Chicago's most revered educational institutions.