



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

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

Consent Agenda

Thursday, May 25, 2023, 10:00 AM

Second Set

[23-3119](#)

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION**OFFICER ANDRES MAURICIO VASQUEZ LASSO, IN MEMORIAM**

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Andres Mauricio Vasquez Lasso from our midst; and

WHEREAS Andres Mauricio Vasquez Lasso was the dearly beloved husband of Milena Estepa, and

WHEREAS, Andres Mauricio Vasquez Lasso was the loving son of Rocio Lasso; and

WHEREAS, Andres Mauricio Vasquez Lasso was the dear brother of Carolina Vasquez; and

WHEREAS, Andres Mauricio Vasquez Lasso was the fond uncle of Alejandra Guevara; cousin of Jhon Vasquez, best friend of Oliver Varela; and

WHEREAS, Andres Mauricio Vasquez Lasso served bravely as an officer in the Chicago Police Department's 8th District; and

WHEREAS, Andres Mauricio Vasquez Lasso career was dedicated to improving neighborhood security and ensuring safer communities for residents in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Andres Mauricio Vasquez Lasso touched the lives of many and will be remembered by all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, all who knew him will attest that Andres Mauricio Vasquez Lasso was a kind and compassionate man, virtuous of character and gentle in spirit, admired and respected by his many friends and neighbors, and dearly loved by his family; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board does hereby offer its deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family of Andres Mauricio Vasquez Lasso and joins them in sorrow at this time of loss; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy of the same be tendered to the family of Andres Mauricio Vasquez Lasso so that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[23-3122](#)

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

FIREFIGHTER JERMAINE A. PELT, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Jermaine A. Pelt from our midst; and

WHEREAS, Jermain Pelt was the devoted father of Jorie (Kyle), Jared; and

WHEREAS, Jermaine Pelt was the loving son of John and Lizzie; and

WHEREAS, Jermaine Pelt was the dear brother of Christopher, Derrick (Doris), and Jerry; and

WHEREAS, Jermaine Pelt was the fond uncle of many nieces and nephews, Shaunice, Kyha, Krs' Shaunah, Kaylah, Christopher Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Jermaine Pelt served bravely as a Chicago Firefighter since 2005; and

WHEREAS, Jermaine Pelt held several titles throughout the years, a firefighter, EMT, instructor at the academy, and a nurse to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Jermaine Pelt touched the lives of many and will be remembered by all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, all who knew him will attest that Jermaine A. Pelt was a kind and compassionate man, virtuous of character and gentle in spirit, admired and respected by his many friends and neighbors, and dearly loved by his family; and

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy of the same be tendered to the family of Jermaine Pelt so that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[23-3124](#)

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CHICAGO FIRE DEPARTMENT LT. JAN MICHAEL TCHORYK, IN MEMORIAM

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Jan Michael Tchoryk from our midst; and

WHEREAS, Jan Tchoryk was the beloved husband of Natalia Kavkun; and

WHEREAS, Jan Tchoryk was the loving father of Jacqueline Nicole, Dylan C.P.D., Olivia and Grace, step father of Olena Kavkun; and

WHEREAS, Jan Tchoryk was the beloved son of Olga and the late Jan; and

WHEREAS, Jan Tchoryk was the dear brother of Stefania (Stefan) Szkafarowsky, Maria (Michael) Osyka, Ewa Tchoryk (Don Bardwell) and Taras (Kris); and

WHEREAS, Jan Tchoryk was the fond uncle of many nieces and nephews.; and

WHEREAS, Jan Tchoryk was a veteran of the U.S. Navy; and

WHEREAS, Jan Tchoryk touched the lives of many and will be remembered by all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, all who knew him will attest that Jan Tchoryk was a kind and compassionate man, virtuous of character and gentle in spirit, admired and respected by his many friends and neighbors, and dearly loved by his family; and

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy of the same be tendered to the family of Jan Tchoryk so that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[23-3131](#)

Sponsored by: JOHN P. DALEY, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION**OFFICER ARÉANAH M. PRESTON, IN MEMORIAM**

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Aréanah M. Preston from our midst; and

WHEREAS, Aréanah M. Preston was the devoted daughter of Allen Preston, and Dionne and Terrence Mhoon; and

WHEREAS, Aréanah M. Preston was the loving sister of Amirah and Amiyah Preston; and

WHEREAS, Aréanah M. Preston was the fond niece, cousin and loyal friend to many; and

WHEREAS, Aréanah M. Preston served bravely as a police officer in the Chicago Police Department's 5th District; and

WHEREAS, Aréanah M. Prestons life and career were dedicated to ensuring safer communities for the residents in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Aréanah M. Preston was a graduate of Illinois State University and achieved her Masters of Jurisprudence from Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

WHEREAS, all who knew her will attest that Aréanah M. Preston was a kind and compassionate woman, virtuous of character and gentle in spirit, admired and respected by her many friends and neighbors, and dearly loved by her family; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board does hereby offer its deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family of Aréanah M. Preston and joins them in sorrow at this time of loss; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy of the same be tendered to the family of Aréanah M. Preston so that her memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[23-3143](#)

Sponsored by: SEAN M. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION TO COMMEMORATE THE VILLAGE OF LEMONT'S SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS The period between 1832 and 1850 became known as the Trail of Tears with Native Americans forced from their homes and relocated to reservations west of the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS The first settlers arrived in what is now the Village of Lemont in 1833. Known then as Athens, its development began along the site of the Illinois & Michigan Canal which flows through the town. The canal, begun in 1836 and completed in 1848, linked the Illinois River and Lake Michigan, creating a direct waterway to the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS Canal digging revealed "Athens Marble" a form of Niagaran Dolomite, which made the Village of Lemont famous for its quarries. Used for the canal and local construction, the easily worked rock became a major export, being used in the building of Chicago's iconic Water Tower; and

WHEREAS By 1848, The Village of Lemont's population reached 3,000 people due to many immigrants from New England or Ohio border towns making their way in search of work, with the unskilled laborers being newly arrived Irish, German, Scandinavians, plus French and English Canadians fleeing poverty and political persecution, who came looking for a new life; and

WHEREAS Language and cultural differences led to segregation among the immigrant populations in the community, so they created individual parishes for worship in their native tongue and to build community. These unique parishes became the Village of Lemont's "Seven Steeples"; and

WHEREAS The Village of Lemont's motto is "Village of Faith", and its church spires and temple reflect the many ethnic groups who came here to quarry stone, dig the Sanitary and Ship Canal and work in other industries; and

WHEREAS The Village of Lemont's Old Stone Church, built of limestone in 1861 was used as a recruiting depot for the Union Army during the American Civil War and is credited with being the largest recruiting station; and

WHEREAS Completing the I&M Canal and the construction of the Chicago & Alton and Santa Fe rail lines between the 1850s and 1890s helped create the routes responsible for the growth of Chicago and Illinois; and played a big part in the town's history by bringing workers to the area as The Village of Lemont became an important cattle, grain and dairy shipping point; and

WHEREAS During World War II, the Metallurgical Laboratory of the University of Chicago moved into Red Gate Woods to carry out Enrico Fermi's work on nuclear reactors for the Manhattan Project; and

WHEREAS After the war, Argonne National Laboratory was designated as the first national laboratory in the United States on July 1, 1946; and

WHEREAS The Village of Lemont was incorporated on June 9, 1873, when an election was held to decide whether the citizens should organize the territory as a village and the question passed overwhelmingly; and

WHEREAS The Village of Lemont is historically significant for its role in transforming the northern region of the state from a sparsely settled frontier to a commercial, agricultural, and industrial region that supplied Chicago and areas beyond with commodities; and

WHEREAS The Village of Lemont stands as one of the oldest American communities in northeastern Illinois; being unique in boasting an authentic historic district that remains intact and has been continually used since the 19th century; and

WHEREAS In 2016, the Village of Lemont Downtown Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS The Village of Lemont is commemorating its 150th anniversary of incorporation and has a lot to celebrate in 2023;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that Cook County Commissioner Sean M. Morrison and the entire Cook County Board extends its heartiest congratulations and well-wishes to the Village of Lemont on their 150th year of incorporation, wishing them continued success in all the years to come; 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 Village of Lemont.

[23-3146](#)

Sponsored by: ALMA E. ANAYA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF *MUJERES LATINAS EN ACCIÓN*

WHEREAS, *Mujeres Latinas en Acción (Mujeres)* was founded in 1973 by the late Maria Mangual and a group of dedicated women as a shelter for young women escaping violence in the Pilsen community, the first program of its kind; and

WHEREAS, *Mujeres* is the longest-standing incorporated Latina-led organization in the nation; and

WHEREAS, over the years *Mujeres* has developed a comprehensive array of social services and advocacy initiatives that promote non-violence, reproductive health, and leadership development; and

WHEREAS, *Mujeres* is a bilingual/bicultural agency that empowers Latinas by providing services that reflect their values and culture and being an advocate on the issues that make a difference in their lives; and

WHEREAS, *Mujeres* offers services that support all programs, which include general intake, volunteer training, and childcare; and

WHEREAS, *Mujeres* continues to provide support for healing and prevention of domestic violence. They offer crisis intervention, a 24-hour crisis line, individual and group counseling, adult and child therapy, court advocacy, community education, professional and volunteer training, and referrals to shelters and other resources; and

WHEREAS, *Mujeres* also continues to provide support for the healing and prevention of sexual violence, they offer crisis intervention, individual and group counseling, adult and child therapy, legal and medical advocacy, community education, professional and volunteer training, and referrals to other resources; and

WHEREAS, *Mujeres* has developed a robust *Empresarias del Futuro* Program (Entrepreneurs of the Future) which is an educational training program in Spanish for women interested in beginning or expanding their small business, leading them on the road to obtaining financial independence; and

WHEREAS, *Mujeres* mobilizes community members to become civically engaged around issues of economic justice, immigrant justice, gender-based violence, and women's health; and

WHEREAS, *Mujeres* also offer parenting education sessions in Spanish to improve interpersonal relationships in families, they also offer individual and group counseling for parents and operate the only free supervised visitation & safe exchange services for low-income families in Chicagoland; and

WHEREAS, *Mujeres* also offers the only leadership program that is designed for Spanish-speaking immigrant survivors of sexual and domestic violence. Participants develop leadership skills and self-confidence, and identify community issues and advocate for change; and

WHEREAS, *Mujeres* received funding and created a national initiative to assist and advise organizations around the country to increase programming and capacity to help address and prevent gender-based violence in Latina communities; and

WHEREAS, *Mujeres'* services have expanded to sites beyond Pilsen in Brighton Park and North Riverside; and

WHEREAS, *Mujeres* has continued to be a national leader in gender-based prevention and has been a continuous advocate for survivors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby recognize and honor the 50th Anniversary of *Mujeres Latinas en Acción*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the proceedings of this Honorable Body and that a suitable copy of this resolution is presented to *Mujeres Latinas en Acción* in honor of its outstanding achievements and its 50th Anniversary.

[23-3147](#)

Sponsored by: ALMA E. ANAYA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

WHEREAS, Blessed Sacrament Parish a Roman Catholic Church in the McKinley Park neighborhood, will be celebrating their 15th Anniversary; and

WHEREAS, rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Blessed Sacrament Parish welcomes and nourishes all people through the celebration of the Eucharist, uniting them with Christ and one another; and

WHEREAS, Blessed Sacrament Parish's mission is to proclaim God's presence, grow together spiritually through worship, prayer, and the sacraments; and

WHEREAS, Blessed Sacrament Parish also offers education services to its communities; and

WHEREAS, in the fall, Blessed Sacrament Parish offers Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults or RCIA to its congregation; and

WHEREAS, Blessed Sacrament Parish strongly believes that parents are essential in the formation of our children, therefore, they ensure that the parents have a good connection to the Parish and are active participants; and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2023, Blessed Sacrament Parish will be hosting their annual banquet celebrating their 15th Anniversary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby recognize and honor the 15th Anniversary of Blessed Sacrament Parish; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the proceedings of this Honorable Body and that a suitable copy of this resolution is presented to Blessed Sacrament Parish in honor of its

outstanding achievements and its 15th Anniversary.

[23-3148](#)

Sponsored by: ALMA E. ANAYA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF ANGELICA GUERRERO AS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AT JOSEPH E. GARY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

WHEREAS, Angie Guerrero, Assistant Principal at Chicago Public School “Gary Elementary School” retires this June 2023 after 29 years of dedication to CPS; and

WHEREAS, Angelica Guerrero was born on December 5, 1962, in Salvatierra, Guanajuato, México to Reyna Guerrero and Transito Guerrero; and

WHEREAS, Angelica Guerrero and her family resided in the Englewood community of Chicago until they settled down within the Little Village community, which is where Angelica spent the majority of her childhood and early adult years; and

WHEREAS, through her parents, Angelica learned the significance of education, discipline, perseverance, and family, which helped her navigate the many trials and tribulations experienced on the south and west sides of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Angelica Guerrero was able to work many part-time and full-time jobs, and pay her way through her Bachelor's in Education and Master's in Curriculum and Instruction from National Louis University. She, ultimately, completed a second Master's in Administrative Leadership from Concordia University Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Angelica Guerrero accepted a position as a Chicago Public Schools teacher at Little Village Academy (LVA) in 1996; and

WHEREAS, during the next 11 years at LVA, she served as a Kindergarten, 1st, and 3rd-grade general education, and bilingual teacher and then a math specialist through the Chicago Math and Science Initiative (CMSI); and

WHEREAS, following her time at LVA, she transitioned to Joseph E. Gary Elementary as the Assistant Principal where she has served for the past 16 years. Angelica has given the last 27 years to the Little Village community and serviced 10,000s of students and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Cook County Board President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby congratulate Angelica Guerrero for her retirement from the Chicago Public School and Joseph E. Gary Elementary School; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, this text be spread upon the proceedings of this Honorable Body and that a suitable copy of this resolution is presented to Angelica Guerrero for her outstanding achievements and work.

[23-3149](#)

Sponsored by: ALMA E. ANAYA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EL VALOR

WHEREAS, El Valor is a non-profit community-based organization that was founded in 1973 by Guadalupe Reyes; and

WHEREAS, El Valor strives for a community in which all members, including individuals with special needs, can live, learn and work; and

WHEREAS, El Valor, meaning “courage”, from its roots in the Hispanic community, has grown into a multicultural, multipurpose organization that reaches thousands of families throughout the Chicagoland area; and

WHEREAS, El Valor’s mission is to support children, people with disabilities, and their families to achieve excellence and participate fully in life; and

WHEREAS, El Valor’s programs exist to create opportunities that enrich and empower vulnerable populations to become their own advocates and promote a sense of inclusion within a learning community; and

WHEREAS, El Valor aspires to be a leader in social justice and the premier organization that supports vulnerable populations to meet their full potential; and

WHEREAS, El Valor has multiple programs to offer those in the community; and

WHEREAS, El Valor Early Childhood Programs focus on early education, inclusion, enrichment, and dual language instruction in English and Spanish; and

WHEREAS, El Valor’s adult programs offer a continuum of services that maximize personal choices, enrichment, employment, and self-sufficiency for individuals of all ages with different abilities; and

WHEREAS, El Valor offers parents a variety of enrichment opportunities including parent curricula, parent seminars, and family groups; and

WHEREAS, El Valor has been awarded many recognitions including the 2021 Vanessa Rich Innovation & Leadership Program Award, the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) awarded a 3-year accreditation. El Valor has also been recognized as a national model in HeadStart social media by NHSA, and as one of the Top 25 Largest Hispanic Run organizations in the U.S; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, El Valor was selected as a Bright Spot, by the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics; and

WHEREAS, El Valor continues to be a tremendous asset to the communities they serve.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby recognize and honor the 50th Anniversary of El Valor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the proceedings of this Honorable Body and that a suitable copy of this resolution is presented to El Valor in honor of its outstanding achievements and its 50th Anniversary

[23-3161](#)

Sponsored by: JOSINA MORITA and TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION HONORING ASIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH AND ASIAN AMERICAN ELECTED OFFICIALS

WHEREAS, the month of May is recognized as Asian American Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, Cook County celebrates the vast contributions made by Asian Americans in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Asian American representation in elected office has grown exponentially in the last decade bringing greater participation and visibility for Asian Americans in government; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Joseph Tecson made history as the first Asian American to serve on the Cook County Board; and

WHEREAS, Sandra Otaka was appointed to the bench in 2000 and in 2002, she was elected as the first Asian American Cook County Judge; and

WHEREAS, Ameya Pawar was elected in 2007 as the first Asian American Alderman elected to the Chicago City Council; and

WHEREAS, Tammy Duckworth was elected in 2012 to the U.S. House of Representatives as the first

Asian American from Illinois in Congress and in 2016 was elected to the U.S. Senate; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Josina Morita was the first Asian American elected in Cook County to a countywide seat as a Commissioner of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District and in 2022 was the first Asian American woman elected as Commissioner of the Cook County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Theresa Mah was elected to the Illinois General Assembly as State Representative of the 2nd District and was reelected to the 24th District; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Raja Krishnamoorthi was elected as Representative to the U.S. House of Representatives for the 8th District of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz was elected to the Illinois General Assembly as State Representative of the 17th District and Ram Villivalam was elected to the Illinois General Assembly as State Senator of the 8th District; and

WHEREAS, additionally in 2018, Holly Kim was elected as Treasurer of Lake County Government; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Janet Yang Rohr was elected to the Illinois General Assembly as State Representative of the 41st District and Denyse Wang Stonebeck was elected to the Illinois General Assembly as State Representative of the 16th District; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, Kevin Olickal was elected to the Illinois General Assembly as State Representative of the 16th District; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, Nabeela Syd was elected to the Illinois General Assembly as State Representative of the 51st District; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, Hoan Hyunh was elected to the Illinois General Assembly as State Representative of the 13th District; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, Sharon Chung was elected to the Illinois General Assembly as State Representative of the 91st District; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, Nicole Lee was appointed as Alderwoman of the 11th Ward in the Chicago City Council and was elected to a full term in 2023 becoming the first Asian American woman to serve in that role; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, Leni Manna-Hoppenworth was elected as Alderwoman of the 48th Ward in the Chicago City Council; and

WHEREAS, over 100 Asian Americans have been elected to offices from Mayor to Judges across the state in recent years greatly expanding representation for Asian Americans in government; and

WHEREAS, representation in government is vital to address issues the diverse and unique challenges and needs from anti-Asian hate to language access that Asian American communities face and the visibility of Asian Americans in government has served as an inspiration to many community members who have not seen themselves represented in government in the past; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby celebrate Asian American Heritage Month and applaud the leadership of these dedicated and esteemed public servants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that suitable copies of this resolution be presented to the public officials honored in this resolution.

[23-3164](#)

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE KENNETH YOUNG LGBTQ+ CENTER

WHEREAS, the LGBTQ+ Center at Kenneth Young “Q Center” offers a litany of different programming aimed at providing space devoted to education and creating community for the LGBTQ+ population in the Northwest Suburbs and across Cook County; and

WHEREAS, the Q Center offers youth programming, advocacy opportunities, professional trainings, and community events aimed at the LGBTQ+ community throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, another priority is to provide young adults opportunities for social gatherings, networking, job and career support, and getting involved with the Q Center’s North Suburban Community Network for queer professionals; and

WHEREAS, the Q Center features the ‘Rainbow Room Youth Advisory Council’, a twice monthly group dedicated to LGBTQ+ advocacy, leadership, and community organizing open to LGBTQ+ identified and LGBTQ+ allied high school students in the Northwest Suburbs; and

WHEREAS, the Q Center also offers the biweekly ‘High School Community Night’, which centers LGBTQ+ teens’ interests and opinions in the Northwest Suburbs and provide an opportunity to learn, have fun, and build community; and

WHEREAS, the programming offered also includes the biweekly ‘Young Adult Night’ for LGBTQ+ young adults age 18-24 in the Northwest Suburbs, which provides a welcoming space to queer people dedicated to building community and learning together; and

WHEREAS, the Q Center also features ‘LGBTQ+ SMART Recovery’, a peer-led, non-clinical program aimed for participants to achieve a healthy, positive, and balanced lifestyle change while navigating substance use and other addictive behaviors, such as gambling, smoking, sex, self-harm, or social media use, using techniques such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Rational Emotive Behavioral Therapy (REBT), Harm-Reduction techniques, and Motivational Interviewing to address these behaviors and empower individuals to recover; and

WHEREAS, while visiting, anyone can get free STI testing done and/or receive take-home STI prevention kits; and

WHEREAS, the provision of these programs and safe spaces to connect are absolutely vital to the mental and physical wellbeing of the LGBTQ+ community in the Northwest Suburbs, and across Cook County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby recognize the Kenneth Young LGBTQ+ Center for all the crucial work they do every day for the LGBTQ+ population in Cook County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and suitable copies be tendered to the Kenneth Young LGBTQ+ Center in recognition of their vital contributions to LBGTO+ community in Cook County.