



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL

Legislation Text

File #: 16-6136, **Version:** 1

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN RECOGNITION OF BARBARA BATES, PHILANTHOPIC, KNOCKING OUT BREAST CANCER AND FIGHTING WITH FASHION EVENT

WHEREAS, On October 16, 2016 the Barbara Bates Foundation (BBF) hosted 30 years of Bates fashion show commemorating the anniversary of Barbara Bates Designs (BBD) while raising funds for its signature charities. This year show commemorated Barbara Bates Designs three decades in Chicago, while raising funds for the Foundation's two initiatives'- uplifting inner city youth, and breast cancer awareness and education for women of color; and

WHEREAS, In 1984 Barbara Bates begin her fashion empire having being self-taught rose to become a dynamic leader in the fashion industry. She began selling her clothes during her lunch breaks and later and investment of \$5,000 from a generous client allowed Barbara Bates to go into the fashion business full time. In 1988, Barbara Bates open a 700-square foot showroom, today she oversees a diverse staff in a sprawling design studio in Chicago's South Loop and;

WHEREAS, since 1999, Barbara Bates Foundation (BBF) has worked with inner city high school students who excel despite difficult circumstances by creating custom made prom dresses and formal attire at no charge. The foundation seeks to empower underprivileged teens to rise above their circumstances, and become successful individuals in their chosen field of study; and

WHEREAS, In 2012 Barbara Bates Foundation (BBF) began to focus its mission to raise funds for educating African American and Latino women on the early detection and treatment of breast cancer;

WHEREAS, Barbara Bates herself a seven year breast cancer survivor, committed to raise half a million dollars to endow the Barbara Bates Foundation Breast Wellness Center at Sinai Health System in the North Lawndale Community. To date Barbara Bates Foundation has raised more than \$ 515K toward the effort and construction is underway for the center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on the behalf of the residents of Cook County, do hereby congratulate Ms. Barbara Bates for her dedication, leadership, drive, and passion for 30 years in the fashion industry and her continued commitment to Knocking Out Breast Cancer and wish her continued success in all of her business and philanthropic endeavors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be spread across the official text of the proceedings of this honorable body and a suitable copy of the same be presented to Ms. Barbara Bates in honor of this occasion.