



# Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street  
Chicago, IL

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 16-5324, **Version:** 1

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### PROPOSED RESOLUTION

#### **CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO'S RAFAEL CINTRÓN ORTIZ LATINO CULTURAL CENTER ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**WHEREAS**, the University of Illinois at Chicago's (UIC) Rafael Cintrón Ortiz Latino Cultural Center is celebrating its 40th anniversary; and

**WHEREAS**, established in 1976, the Latino Cultural Center was the first cultural center at UIC; and

**WHEREAS**, the Latino Cultural Center was born out of a mid-1970s movement which also sparked the emergence of the Latin American and Latino Studies Program in 1974 and the Latin American Recruitment and Educational Services (LARES) Program in 1975; and

**WHEREAS**, the Latino Cultural Center emerged as the third pillar of this movement thanks to visionary Latina/o students, faculty, staff, and community members, who fought tirelessly for a cultural center to support the academic growth of the increasing Latina/o student population on campus; and

**WHEREAS**, the Latino Cultural Center was named after the late Rafael Cintrón Ortiz, a Puerto Rican professor who unconditionally supported the creation of the center and was an inspirational figure to students on campus; and

**WHEREAS**, the Latino Cultural Center envisions a more inclusive campus, where all can respectfully challenge each other to uphold principles of human dignity and ensure the nourishment and protection of cultural diversity; and

**WHEREAS**, to accomplish the vision and mission, the Latino Cultural Center identifies, creates, and promotes opportunities to help students, faculty/staff, community members and local communities deepen their understanding of Latino cultures, issues, and assets; and

**WHEREAS**, the Latino Cultural Center continuously supports the academic and professional growth of students in the areas of leadership development, civic engagement, cultural and environmental sustainability, and intercultural skills development, along with harnessing community knowledge and assets to build coalitions for positive social change.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby congratulate the University of Illinois at Chicago's (UIC) Rafael Cintrón Ortiz Latino Cultural Center on its 40th anniversary and extends its best wishes for continued excellence in fostering cultural awareness and protecting cultural diversity; 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 be presented to the UIC's Latino Cultural Center.