



# Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street  
Chicago, IL

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 17-2613, **Version:** 2

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### **PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE TO FILE 17-2613**

**Sponsored by:** STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF JOSEPHINE “MOTHER” WADE**

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners are pleased to recognize the dedication and commitment given to the residents of Chicago by Josephine “Mother” Wade; and

**WHEREAS**, Josephine Wade was one of thirteen children born to George Wade and Margie Ree Wade; and

**WHEREAS**, Josephine Wade attended Lincoln High School in Forrest City, Arkansas and graduated from South Mountain High School in Phoenix, Arizona; and

**WHEREAS**, Josephine Wade made a decision at the age of 15 that the way to reach her dreams was to become an entrepreneur; and

**WHEREAS**, Josephine entered the business world at the age of 21 and quickly established herself as a hard worker and strategic businesswoman; and

**WHEREAS**, Josephine Wade pursued her interest in being a restaurateur and mortgage broker for 33 years; and

**WHEREAS**, after marrying Rupert Smith, the love of her life, they went on to open Captain's Hard Times Dining at 353 East 79th Street in Chicago in 1989; and

**WHEREAS**, their collaboration was so successful that less than four months after opening, they outgrew the 79<sup>th</sup> Street location and moved to their present location of 436-440 East 79th Street in Chicago; and

**WHEREAS**, Josephine Wade had three biological children, Victor Love, Beverly Love and Elyse Love, but she also would look after all of the children in her community as if she were their “mother”; and

**WHEREAS**, “Mother” Wade, as she is called in the community, gave “mother” lessons to all the children who she came into contact with, whether it was discipline, financial or just a motherly hug; and

**WHEREAS**, She cares less about a person’s economic status and more about a person’s potential; and

**WHEREAS**, “Mother” Wade always expressed to anyone and everyone her motto: "I always put God first in my life, and my second love, of course, is my family, followed closely by the church and the clergy"; and

**WHEREAS**, “Mother” Wade is a loyal member of Triedstone Full Gospel Baptist Church; and

**WHEREAS**, “Mother” Wade expresses her love for her community by committing her time and energy as a member of the Board of Directors of the Albertina Walker Scholarship Foundation as well as serving on the Community Advisory

Board for Carver High School and the Harold Washington College's Hospitality Program and several national associations; and

**WHEREAS**, “Mother” Wade has received many awards in the past, but the ones that she will cherish most include being recognized by President Bill Clinton and President George Bush for her community and political involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, Rainbow PUSH honored her at its International Women’s Luncheon by presenting her the Excellence in Business Award in June 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, in March 2017 the Chicago Defender recognized Josephine “Mother” Wade as one of 2017’s “50 Women of Excellence”; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2017 “Mother” Wade received her greatest award when the community that she has lived in and worked tirelessly to support honored her by dedicating the intersection of 79<sup>th</sup> Street and South Vernon in her name; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners that Cook County shall recognize Josephine “Mother” Wade’s tireless service to the citizens of Chicago; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to be presented to Josephine “Mother” Wade in recognition of this important milestone.