



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL

Legislation Text

File #: 17-5890, **Version:** 1

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING THE COPERNICUS CENTER

WHEREAS, the Copernicus Foundation, named after world-renowned Polish scientist and the Father of Modern Astronomy Nicolaus Copernicus, was chartered as a not-for-profit organization in July 1971 to serve the metropolitan Chicago area as a major civic, cultural, educational, recreational and entertainment resource; and

WHEREAS, a search began in 1977 for a permanent site to house a Polish cultural center in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, the Copernicus Foundation purchased the old Gateway Cinema building located near Milwaukee and Lawrence avenues and restored the building, converting it into the Copernicus Center; and

WHEREAS, since 1979, the Copernicus Foundation annually fulfills its mission for education and entertainment in another way, by sponsoring the annual "TASTE OF POLONIA FESTIVAL", the largest Polish Festival in the country visited by over 30,000 annually where festival goers familiarize themselves with many aspects of Polish customs, culture, traditions and language; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, the Copernicus Foundation has serviced over one and a half million patrons in the last 10 years and has underwritten and contributed support to the performing arts; and

WHEREAS, the Copernicus Center is used by theatrical groups, schools, symphonies, modern rock concerts, beauty pageants, fashion shows, body building tournaments, international music stars, local musicians, and even the President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Copernicus Center has served as a beacon of hope for families across the Polish community, Chicago and all of Cook County; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, recognize Copernicus Center for its essential contribution to the health and viability of Cook County.