



Office of the City Clerk



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City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	12/12/2012
Sponsor(s):	Reilly, Brendan (42)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Declaration of February 21, 2013 as "Food Checkout Day" in Chicago.
Committee(s) Assignment:	

Committee on Finance
December 12, 2012 City Council Meeting
Alderman Brendan Reilly, 42nd Ward
Resolution for Consent Calendar

Declaring February 21, 2013 "Food Checkout Day" in the City of Chicago.

WHEREAS, Food Checkout Day was established in the mid-1990's to recognize the connection between farmers and the safe, nutritious food source they cooperatively grow; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Farm Bureau® has celebrated Food Checkout Day by raising cash and food donations for Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana (RMHC®-CNI) since 2001; and

WHEREAS, Food Checkout Day will again be celebrated at the Ronald McDonald House near Advocate Hope Children's Hospital; and

WHEREAS, for the first time ever Food Checkout Day will also be celebrated at the world's largest Ronald McDonald House located in Chicago in the Streeterville neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, since 2001 Cook County Farm Bureau® members have donated 348 hours, 38,186 pounds of food, contributed \$50,083 in cash donations and 1,211 pounds of pop tabs to support Chicagoland's four Ronald McDonald Houses; and

WHEREAS, RMHC®-CNI continues to improve the health, well-being and education of children by providing a "home away from home" to keep families together while their child is receiving medical treatment far from home; and

WHEREAS, RMHC®-CNI in partnership with Advocate Hope Children's Hospital, provides essential services to children in underserved areas in a mobile environment; and

WHEREAS, 678,000 people in Cook County each year rely on emergency and supplemental food assistance provided by the Food Depository and its member network; and

WHEREAS, in some Cook County communities, as many as one in three people are food insecure; and

WHEREAS, research has indicated a strong link between food insecurity and poverty; and

WHEREAS, Food Checkout Day's theme this year is "Stretching your grocery dollars with healthy, nutritious food" reflecting the fact that Americans from all walks of life continue to work through an economic squeeze; and

WHEREAS, public health experts remain concerned that families may resort to buying less-nutritious foods that lack essential vitamins, minerals, fiber and other nutrients; and

WHEREAS, the 46,000 members of the Cook County Farm Bureau® including over 1,000 farmer members recognize the importance of producing a safe, nutritious food using environmentally sustainable practices; and

WHEREAS, Cook County farmers recognize the need for better access throughout Cook County to fresh food; and

WHEREAS, Food Checkout Day is dedicated to supporting those in need while increasing individuals' awareness of those families without adequate food supplies; and

WHEREAS, despite cash and non-perishable donations there is increased need at all four of RMHC®-CNI Cook County houses; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the City of Chicago recognize Thursday, February 21 as Food Checkout Day and salute the efforts of the Cook County Farm Bureau® and the Ronald McDonald House Charities®- Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana for their efforts to feed those individuals and families in need.



Brendan Reilly
Alderman, 42nd Ward