



City of Chicago



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Office of the City Clerk

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Meeting Date: 5/23/2018

Sponsor(s): Emanuel (Mayor)
Burke (14)
Austin (34)
O'Connor (40)

Type: Resolution

Title: Tribute to late Wilson Frost, former Alderman of 21st Ward

Committee(s) Assignment:

508 P



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

May 23, 2018

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith, together with Aldermen Burke, Austin and O'Connor, a resolution honoring the life and memory of our former colleague Wilson Frost.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Mayor

A resolution

adopted by **The City Council**
of the **City of Chicago, Illinois**



Presented by Aldermen Edward M. Burke, Carrie M. Austin, Patrick J. O'Connor, and Mayor Rahm Emanuel on May 23, 2018

Whereas The Members of this Chamber were deeply saddened to learn that our former colleague, the Honorable Wilson Frost of the 34th Ward, passed away on May 5, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Wilson Frost was born on December 27, 1925, in Cairo, Illinois. After moving to Chicago, he attended Doolittle Elementary School and graduated from Phillips High School. Wilson Frost served in the military before attending Fisk University and earning his bachelor's degree in 1950. He then worked at the Postal Transportation Service as a clerk, and later at Provident Hospital as a statistician; and

WHEREAS, After returning to school and earning his law degree from Chicago-Kent College of Law in 1958, Wilson Frost began to practice law in Chicago. He became partner at the law firm of Frost, Sherard, Howse & Coleman, where he practiced until 1973. He then established the law firm of Meyer & Frost, which later became Frost & Greenblatt. He remained with Frost & Greenblatt until his retirement in 1998, having actively practiced law for over 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Wilson Frost began his distinguished career in public service in 1967, when he was first elected to the Chicago City Council to represent the 21st Ward. He was later elected alderman of the 34th Ward in 1971; and

WHEREAS, Alderman Frost quickly emerged as a leader in the City Council, and rapidly rose through its ranks. He served as Chairman of the Committee on Human Resources and Chairman of the Utilities Committee. In 1976, he was appointed President Pro Temp; and

WHEREAS, Upon the death of longtime Mayor Richard J. Daley in 1976, Alderman Frost was selected to serve as the Chairman of the Committee on Finance; and

WHEREAS, After leaving the City Council in 1987, Alderman Frost was elected to serve as a Commissioner on the Cook County Board of Tax Appeals, a position he held until his retirement in 1998. Throughout his long public service career, Alderman Frost was one of Chicago's and Cook County's leading African-American politicians. He served as a guiding light, mentor, and role model for other African-Americans who aspired to enter into politics; and

WHEREAS, During his years of public service, Wilson Frost received many accolades and awards, including being named "Man of the Year" in 1974 by the Original Forty Club. The Illinois House of Representatives also honored him by passing a resolution praising his work when he retired in 1998; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the many hours he dedicated to serving in elected public office, Alderman Frost gave back to the community in other ways, serving various organizations including the John Marshall School of Law and Mercy Hospital Medical Center. He also served as vice president of the City Club of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, In retirement, Alderman Frost and his beloved wife, Myra, lived in Palm Desert, California, where they were avid golfers and members of the Avondale Golf Club; and

WHEREAS, Alderman Frost made it a priority for his family to spend quality time together, and he believed that family fellowship was as important as education was essential. He counted among his life's greatest triumphs his daughters, Jackie, Myma and Renee; his adored grandchildren, Michael and Kimberly; and his precious great-grandchildren, Michael, Jr., Austin and Justin; and

WHEREAS, Wilson Frost touched the lives of all who knew him through his kindness, generosity, and vivacious spirit. A true man of God, he will be sorely missed, but fondly remembered for his compassion, character, intelligence, leadership, great integrity, and accomplishments; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled here this twenty-third day of May, 2018, do hereby mourn the passing of Alderman Wilson Frost, and extend our most sincere condolences to his family and friends; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Alderman Frost as a token of our honor, gratitude and respect.



Rafael E. Enríquez

MAYOR

Andrea H. Valencia

CITY CLERK