

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, In recognition of her stewardship and appreciation of her work improving the lives of the residents of the 12th Ward and all Chicagoans as a member of the City Council, the Members of this Chamber are pleased to thank Alderman Anabel Abarca for her service to City Council; and

WHEREAS, Alderman Abarca was born in Chicago to working-class parents who immigrated from Mexico, and grew up having to translate legal and city documents for her parents, which sparked her interest in law and helping people; and

WHEREAS, Anabel Abarca attended Taft High School, followed by DePaul University, and received a master's degree in public administration from Arizona State University, and a juris doctor degree from Loyola University Chicago; and

WHEREAS, As an attorney, she has supported the business goals of real estate and construction leaders by helping resolve disputes and negotiate contracts and also prioritized pro bono work for people who cannot afford legal service; and

WHEREAS, In addition to her legal experience, Alderman Abarca served as the chief of staff to the former 12th Ward Alderman, George Cardenas, from 2013 to 2016, and as a policy analyst with the Chicago Department of Public Health; and

WHEREAS, Anabel Abarca is involved in many community organizations and has served on the executive board of multiple non-profits, including McKinley Park Development Council, Latinos Progresando, and the El Valor Associate Board; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Lori Lightfoot appointed Anabel Abarca as Alderman for the 12th Ward in December 2022 to replace Alderman George Cardenas, following his departure from City Council; and

WHEREAS, As Alderman, she served on the Committees on the Budget and Government Operations; Committees and Rules; Contracting Oversight and Equity; Economic, Capital, and Technology Development; Environmental Protection and Energy; Finance; Immigrant and Refugee Rights; License and Consumer Protection; and Pedestrian and Traffic Safety; and

WHEREAS, Alderman Abarca has worked diligently since her appointment to serve the residents of McKinley Park, Brighton Park, and other communities in her Ward, including by meeting with the Department of Planning and Development and the Department of Transportation to have bike lanes installed along major thoroughfares and encouraging more businesses to open on the main corridors of the Ward; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this nineteenth day of April 2023, do hereby thank Alderman Anabel Abarca for her service to City Council and the 12th Ward and extend to her our best wishes for continued health, happiness, prosperity, and success; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Alderman Anabel Abarca as a sign of our appreciation and esteem.