

City of Chicago



R2023-649

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:

Sponsor(s):

Type:

Title:

Committee(s) Assignment:

4/19/2023

Lightfoot (Mayor)

Resolution

Congratulations extended to Alderman Leslie Hairston on

retirement from Chicago City Council



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR CITY OF CHICAGO

LORI E. LIGHTFOOT
MAYOR

April 19, 2023

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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith, together with the entire City Council, a resolution honoring Alderman Leslie Hairston.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Mavor

Chicago City Clerk-Council Div. 2023 APR 17 AMS:32

RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS, In recognition of her leadership and appreciation of her tireless work improving the lives of the residents of the 5th Ward and all Chicagoans through zealous advocacy as a member of the City Council, the Members of this Chamber are pleased to congratulate Alderman Leslie Hairston, on the occasion of her retirement from the Council; and
- WHEREAS, Leslie Hairston was born in Chicago and raised in the Hyde Park and South Shore neighborhoods by her parents, an educator with the Chicago Public Schools and a tavem owner who later became Chicago's first Black owner-operator of a McDonald's franchise, attending the University of Chicago Lab Schools, followed by the University of Wisconsin and Loyola University School of Law; and
- **WHEREAS**, Before being elected Alderman, Leslie Hairston worked as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Illinois and in private law practice; and
- WHEREAS, Leslie Hairston was first elected Alderman in 1999 after running with the goal to improve constituent services to the residents of her community; and
- WHEREAS, As Alderman, Leslie Hairston fought for the \$162 million reconstruction of South Lake Shore Drive, renovations to Jackson Park and the South Shore Cultural Center, repair and enhancement of Metra stations and grounds, and general improvement to residential and commercial streets and lighting in her Ward; and
- WHEREAS, Alderman Hairston oversaw the opening of new shopping malls and addition of several local and national retailers, including K&G Fashion Superstore, Anna's Linens, Staples, Aldi, Jewel/Osco, Save-A-Lot, and the city's first drive-through Starbucks; and
- WHEREAS, Alderman Hairston initiated ordinances, greater police presence and CAPS involvement to address vacant lots and buildings, problem businesses and landlords, robberies and loitering; and
- WHEREAS, Alderman Hairston established the only triathlon on the South Side and promoted the 5th Ward with the Midway Plaisance skating rink, Lucky Strike Bowling Alley, the Chosen Few House Music Festival, the Carifette Caribbean carnival, and public murals; and
- **WHEREAS**, Alderman Hairston has remained true to her principles since joining City Council in 1999, sitting on five committees, and ensuring that her votes would help the residents of her 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 congratulate Alderman Leslie Hairston on the occasion of her retirement; express to her our heartfelt gratitude for her exemplary service to the residents of our great City; 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 Leslie Hairston as a sign of our appreciation and esteem.

` .