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City Council Document Tracking Sheet

**Meeting Date:** 7/6/2011  
**Sponsor(s):** Chandler, Michael D. (24)  
**Type:** Resolution  
**Title:** Tribute to Late Willie B. Finch  
**Committee(s) Assignment:**

## TRIBUTE TO THE LATE WILLIE B. FINCH

WHEREAS, It is with great sadness that the City Council of the City of Chicago is hereby informed of the passing of Willie B. Finch, a noteworthy public servant, member of her community, beloved citizen and friend at the age of seventy-seven years; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Michael D. Chandler, Alderman of the 24<sup>th</sup> Ward has informed this august body of the passing of this nurturing and loving woman; and

WHEREAS, Born in Starkville, Mississippi, Willie B. Cannady was the product of loving parents. She often spent hours with her father, Rev. Cannady attending tent revivals praying, singing and testifying; and

WHEREAS, Symbolic of the strength and solidity of family life, Willie and James A. Moore were joined in holy matrimony and to this union three children were born, Darleen Gail, Shirley and James, Jr. Her husband, son, and daughter Shirley predeceased her. In 1962 Willie and Ben Finch were united in marriage and his children were added to the family, daughters, Lois Turner, Verna June and Zena Finch-McHarron, and a son, Albert. Verna and Albert predeceased Willie B. Finch; and

WHEREAS, Willie B. Finch ran Les Finch's Learning Tree for more than four decades. Her motto, "Every child needs individual care" remains compulsory by her 25 employees at Les Finch's Learning Tree; and

WHEREAS, Les Finch's Learning Tree Day Preschool is a private, early childhood program/day care center that serves 200 students in grades PK, through Kindergarten. Les Finch's Learning Tree Day Preschool is coed and is Christian (no specific denomination) in orientation. In 2008 the center had 20 students for every full-time equivalent teacher. The Illinois average is 16 students per full-time equivalent teacher; and

WHEREAS, Willie B. Finch will be dearly missed by her family members, the students, their parents, and the teachers at Les Finch's Learning Tree, neighbors and a host of others who shared her friendship and sought her advice, wisdom and consolation; and

WHEREAS, Willie B. Finch leaves to celebrate her life and cherish her memory, her beloved husband, loving children, 13 grandchildren, great grandchildren, great-great grandchildren, a cousin, Art James who was raised with her as a brother, and a multitude of friends, will be greatly missed and fondly remembered; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved, That we, the Mayor and members of the Chicago City Council, assembled here this 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2011, A.D., do hereby express our sincere sympathy to the family and friends of Willie B. Finch, and extend our deepest condolences to all those who cherish her memory and mourn her passing.

Be It Further Resolved, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the family of Willie B. Finch.



MICHAEL D. CHANLDER  
Alderman - 24<sup>th</sup> Ward