

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, In recognition of his leadership and appreciation of his dedication to improving the lives of the residents of the 14<sup>th</sup> Ward and all Chicagoans during his half-century of service as a member of the City Council, the Members of this Chamber are pleased to congratulate Alderman Edward M. Burke, on the occasion of his retirement from the Council; and

**WHEREAS**, Edward M. Burke was born in 1943 in Chicago to Joseph P., who was elected alderman from the 14<sup>th</sup> Ward in November 1953, and Ann Burke; and

**WHEREAS**, Alderman Burke graduated from Quigley Preparatory Seminary high school in 1961, earned his Bachelor's degree in 1965 from DePaul University while working as a Chicago Police Officer for three years, and in 1968 he received his Juris Doctor degree from DePaul University, becoming a member of the Illinois State Bar Association; and

**WHEREAS**, After his father's untimely death in 1968, Mr. Burke won the election to become Democratic Committeeman to replace his father, and in 1969 won the election to become Alderman of the 14<sup>th</sup> Ward; and

**WHEREAS**, Alderman Burke quickly became an influential member of the City Council, demonstrating himself to be a dynamic force in promoting legislation, including to protect non-smokers from second-hand smoke, mandate pet-spaying, and regulate restaurant food; and

**WHEREAS**, He was appointed as the Chairman of the Finance Committee in 1983 and maintained that position for over thirty years, also serving most recently as a member of the Committees on Committees and Rules, Education and Child Development, Environmental Protection and Energy, Pedestrian and Traffic Safety, and Transportation and the Public Way; and

**WHEREAS**, As Alderman, Mr. Burke has been able to successfully bring numerous economic development projects to the 14<sup>th</sup> Ward such as a new \$25 million combination warehouse and plant to process pork, beef and other meats, a shopping center, medical facilities, a charter school, an apartment complex, a distribution center for home delivered retail goods, and the relocation of the Chicago Park District headquarters; and

**WHEREAS**, Alderman Burke continued to be re-elected to serve the 14<sup>th</sup> Ward for a total of 54 years, making him the longest serving alderman in the history of the City of Chicago; and

**WHEREAS**, An avid student of Chicago history, Alderman Burke co-authored two books, Inside the Wigwam: Chicago Presidential Conventions, 1860-1996; and End of Watch; and

**WHEREAS**, Alderman Burke is a partner in the law firm of Klafter & Burke and is involved in many civic and charitable organizations, including the One Hundred Club of Cook County, the Knights of Columbus and the Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago; 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 extend to Alderman Edward M. Burke of the 14<sup>th</sup> Ward, our deepest gratitude and thanks for his many years of exceptional service to the people of Chicago, and our best wishes for continued success in all of his future endeavors; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to Alderman Edward M. Burke of the 14<sup>th</sup> Ward, as a token of our appreciation and esteem.