



City of Chicago



R2016-224

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	3/16/2016
Sponsor(s):	Burke (14)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Commemoration of 100th anniversary of Easter Rising
Committee(s) Assignment:	

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Republic of Ireland is preparing to observe the 100th Anniversary of the Easter Rising of 1916, which is remembered by historians as the pivotal turning point in Ireland's struggle for freedom against English rule; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of this centenary by Alderman Edward M. Burke; and

WHEREAS, The 100th Anniversary of the Easter Rising will be marked by a grand parade in Dublin on Easter Sunday past the General Post Office on O'Connell Street and will include thousands of troops and descendants of the rebels; and

WHEREAS, Michael D Higgins, the President of Ireland, will lay a wreath at the General Post Office where the rebel leader, Patrick Pearse, read a proclamation declaring Ireland's independence; and

WHEREAS, The Irish rebellion to end British rule was organized by poets, Irish language enthusiasts, idealists and members of the Irish Volunteers began at noon on Monday, April 24, 1916 and lasted more than six days; and

WHEREAS, The Irish nationalists, numbering approximately 1,600, seized the General Post Office, court buildings and St. Stephen's Green and declared Ireland an independent republic; and

WHEREAS, The volunteers clashed with 16,000 heavily armed British troops and within a week the insurrection was suppressed, leaving 450 dead and more than 2,000 wounded; and

WHEREAS, The following month, sixteen leaders of the uprising, including Patrick Pearse, were executed by firing squad; and

WHEREAS, The uprising became the first stage in a war of independence that resulted in the creation of the Irish Free State in 1922 and the formal declaration of the Irish Republic in 1949; and

WHEREAS, In 1932 Eamon de Valera, the sole surviving leader of the uprising, became the leader of his new party, Fianna Fail; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this sixteenth day of March, 2016, do hereby join with the Irish diaspora of the City of Chicago in commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Easter Rising; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Orla McBreen, Consul General of Ireland in Chicago.



Alderman - 14th Ward