



City of Chicago



R2021-75

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 1/27/2021

Sponsor(s): Tunney (44)
Smith (43)
Silverstein (50)

Type: Resolution

Title: Commemoration of Jewish War Veterans of America's
(JWW) 125th Anniversary

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Jewish War Veterans of America (JWV) will celebrate their 125th Anniversary, on March 15, 2021: and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of this occasion by Alderman Thomas Tunney of the 44th Ward, Alderwoman Michele Smith of the 43rd Ward and Alderwoman Debra Silverstein of the 50th Ward: and

WHEREAS, the Jewish War Veterans, the oldest continuously active veterans' service organization in the United States, was founded in New York in 1896 by a group of 63 Civil War veterans after a series of anti-Semitic comments about the lack of Jewish service in the War. Since then, Jewish War Veterans of America has been working hard to be the voice of American Jewry in the veteran community: and

WHEREAS, In World War I, JWV was essential to establishing the Jewish chaplaincy within the military and fought successfully to include other grave markers in veterans' cemeteries, such as the Star of David: and

WHEREAS, Jewish War Veterans campaigned hard to have religious and racial protections added into the 1944 GI Bill, which allowed Jewish and other minority soldiers to use their GI benefits to lift themselves out of poverty: and

WHEREAS, During the Cold War, JWV fought the Ku Klux Klan and the John Birch Society. They fought hard for the rights of Jewish American soldiers during McCarthyism, when Jewish American troops were being accused or dismissed because of their Eastern European upbringing. JWV organized and established the National Museum of American Jewish Military History in Washington, DC in 1958 and helped organize the counter-demonstration to a neo-Nazi march in Skokie, Illinois in 1979: and

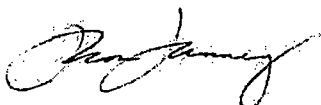
WHEREAS, Jewish War Veterans Post 710 was established in Chicago and its members have contributed to many civic activities locally at Veteran Administration Hospitals, in high schools through JROTC programs and have served their communities in various capacities: and

WHEREAS, Chicago has contributed four National Commanders to Jewish War Veterans of America: General Julius Klein, Herman Moses, David Hymes, and the current national commander, Jeffery Sacks: and

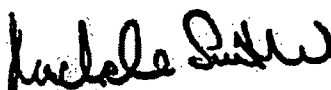
WHEREAS, Today, we honor Jewish military who have participated in every American conflict since the Revolution to protect Freedom and Democracy: now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this 27th day of January, 2021, do hereby honor the service and accomplishments of the Jewish War Veterans of America and extend our heartfelt thanks and congratulations on their 125th anniversary; and

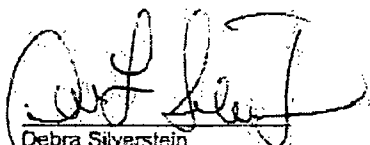
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Jewish War Veterans Chicago Post 710 Commander, Dr. Jerry Field, as a symbol of our esteem and gratitude.



Thomas Tunney
Alderman, 44th Ward



Michele Smith
Alderwoman, 43rd Ward

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra Silverstein". The signature is stylized with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Debra Silverstein
Alderman, 50th Ward