



City of Chicago



R2018-685

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 6/27/2018

Sponsor(s): Emanuel (Mayor)
Burke (14)
Sposato (38)
Tunney (44)
King (4)
Brookins (21)

Type: Resolution

Title: Congratulations extended to founders, leaders, athletes and supporters of Special Olympics on 50th anniversary

Committee(s) Assignment:

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

June 27, 2018

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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith, together with Aldermen Burke, Sposato, Tunney, King and Brookins, a resolution concerning the Special Olympics on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Mayor



A resolution

adopted by *The City Council*
of the *City of Chicago, Illinois*



Presented by

Aldermen Edward M. Burke, Nicholas Sposato,
Tom Tunney, Sophia D. King, Howard Brookins, Jr. and
Mayor Rahm Emanuel

on

June 27, 2018

Whereas, 2018 marks the fiftieth anniversary of Special Olympics, an organization with a mission to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports to more than five million children and adults with intellectual differences around the world; and

WHEREAS, Special Olympics originated in Chicago, with the first games held at Soldier Field in July of 1968, thanks to the efforts of Justice Anne M. Burke, Eunice Kennedy Shriver and others; and

WHEREAS, A global leader in the effort to end discrimination and dedicated to empowering people with intellectual differences, Special Olympics is the world's largest sports organization for children and adults with intellectual differences; and

WHEREAS, Special Olympics is a vanguard in raising awareness about the capabilities of people with intellectual differences. By participating, both children and adults discover new strengths, abilities, confidence, and success on the playing field; and

WHEREAS, Special Olympics' Healthy Athletes Program is the world's largest public health organization dedicated to serving people with intellectual differences and offers a wide range of free health exams and care; and

WHEREAS, Special Olympics identifies the pressing issues facing people with intellectual differences, leads high-level scientific research and reaches out to government and community leaders to create awareness, influence policy and bring valuable services to those in need; and

WHEREAS, On July 21, 2018, Special Olympics will begin its second half-century of service, and to mark this amazing milestone, it will harness the reach and power of its more than five million athletes in over 170 countries, along with their families, friends and supporters, to celebrate inclusion and to stand against discrimination; and

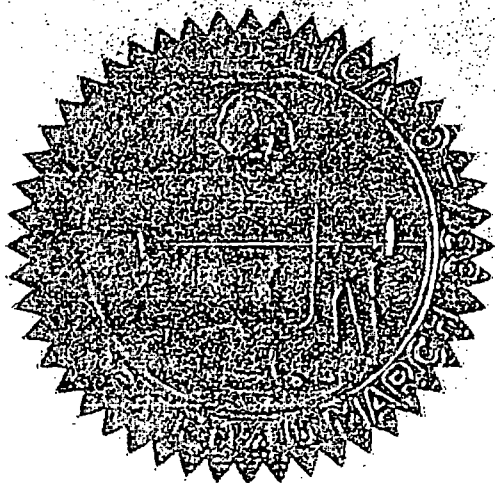
WHEREAS, The birthplace of Special Olympics, Chicago's Soldier Field hosted the very first Special Olympics in 1968, igniting a flame of hope that has burned bright for half a century, and now, fifty years later, Soldier Field will host a massive celebration from July 17 to July 21, an inclusion festival that will serve as a spark for people around the world to commit to making their cities more inclusive; and

WHEREAS, An Eternal Flame, designed by Richard Hunt, will be erected on Chicago's McFetridge Drive, to remind everyone to support inclusion for all children and adults with intellectual differences; and

WHEREAS, The location of the Eternal Flame will be the starting point for all future National and World Games for Special Olympics; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this twenty-seventh day of June, 2018, do hereby congratulate the visionaries, leaders, athletes and supporters of Special Olympics on the organization's fiftieth anniversary, and express our sincere appreciation to Special Olympics for its remarkable fifty-year journey of inspiration, respect and inclusion for people with intellectual differences; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the leadership team of Special Olympics as a sign of our respect and wish for its continued success.



Ral Emanuel

MAYOR

Andrea H. Valencia

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