

Very truly yours,

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Members of this Chamber are honored and pleased to congratulate Yuvraj ("Raj") Rudra Chennareddy, age 8, for winning a gold medal in the 2018 U8 World Cadet Chess Championships held in Santiago de Compostela, Galicia, Spain, in November of 2018; and

WHEREAS, A record number of 851 participants took part in the age 12 and under competitions, with 542 players competing for gold in the Open Section. Despite intense competition, Raj was undefeated throughout the tournament, scoring 10 wins and a draw; and

WHEREAS, Defying the odds to secure first place in the Under 8 Section, Raj was the only top-5 finisher ranked outside the top-10 by pre-tournament ratings. He began the tournament with a modest 1497 World Chess Federation ("FIDE") performance rating, ranking him 25th among the 135 entrants in his category. By the end of the competition, Raj had compiled a remarkable 2032 FIDE rating, finishing significantly ahead of the Silver medalist from Azerbaijan to create the widest gap between any Gold-Silver duo in the Championships' history; and

WHEREAS, One of six Illinoisans chosen to represent the United States at this year's World Cadet Chess Championships, Raj's impressive performance was a boon to the Illinois team. All six Illinois entrants returned home with plus-scores, including three top-ten finishes; and

WHEREAS, Raj captured the heart of Chicago's Edgewater community, where he resides with his family in the 48th Ward, when a recent Facebook post about his victory went viral; and

WHEREAS, Described by his coach as a boy who loves chess "to the moon," Raj is well known for his relaxed pre-game demeanor and for playing solid positional chess - attacking sometimes, rarely blundering, and always capitalizing on his opponent's mistakes. Even more importantly, his chess friends love and respect him because he is a very kind and hard working boy; and

WHEREAS, Raj's remarkable success at chess would not have been possible without the unfailing help and support of his father Satish, his mother Prathima, his sister Siri, and his two coaches, Kostya Kavutskiy and Grandmaster Mesgen Amanov; and

WHEREAS, A Warren Junior Scholar and Rising Star in the United States Chess Federation, Raj, who was home schooled this past year to enable him to compete in tournaments, will return in January to Decatur Classical Elementary School, where he is looking forward to finishing the second grade; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago,

assembled this twelfth day of December, 2018, do hereby congratulate Yuvraj ("Raj") Rudra Chennareddy for his stellar performance at the 2018 World Cadet Chess Championships, and extend to him and to his family our best wishes for continued success; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Yuvraj ("Raj") Rudra Chennareddy as a token of our appreciation and esteem.

resolution

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

**Alderman Harry Osterman and
resented by Mayor Rahm Emanuel**

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