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Legislation Text

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

LORI E. LIGHTFOOT
MAYOR

May 25, 2022

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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith, together with Aldermen Hopkins, Sadlowski-Garza, Silverstein, Waguespack, O'Shea, Tunney, Osterman, Cappleman, Martin, Mitts, Hadden, Ervin, Vasquez and Reilly, a resolution congratulating Morton Schapiro on his retirement as President of Northwestern University.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, After more than a decade of transformative leadership, Morton Schapiro will conclude his tenure as president of Northwestern University on August 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Schapiro began his term as the sixteenth president of Northwestern University on September 1, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Schapiro has also served as professor of economics in Northwestern's Judd A. and Marjorie Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, holds appointments in the Kellogg School of Management and the School of Education and Social Policy; and is a fellow of the Institute for Policy Research; and

WHEREAS, Schapiro is among the nation's leading authorities on the economics of higher education, with particular expertise in the area of college financing and affordability and on trends in educational costs and student aid; and

WHEREAS, During Schapiro's tenure, Northwestern became one of only four US universities ranked in the top 20 across all graduate education categories and reached an overall #9 ranking among national universities; and

WHEREAS, Under Schapiro's leadership, Northwestern achieved several milestones, including doubling representation from underrepresented student groups and increasing the number of faculty with major national academy memberships from 95 in 2009 to 164 today; and

WHEREAS, Schapiro has led unprecedented growth of the Northwestern research enterprise, increasing sponsored research activity from \$476.9 million in 2009 to \$893 million in 2021, making Northwestern the largest academic research site in Illinois, and bringing important economic benefits to Chicago and the State; and

WHEREAS, During Schapiro's tenure, Northwestern invested \$2 billion to renovate and open new facilities in Evanston and Chicago, including the Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Biomedical Research Center, a \$475 million state-of-the-art facility in the Streeterville neighborhood helping drive the life-sciences economy in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Schapiro dedicated his tenure to recruiting a diverse cohort of students to Northwestern, increasing the number of Pell Grant recipients to over 21 percent of the student population, awarding \$209 million in institutional aid in academic year 2021-2022, and growing the number of Chicago Public Schools (CPS) student enrollees from just a handful in 2009 to over 500 in 2022; and

WHEREAS, Under Schapiro, Northwestern has strengthened its support for local communities in Chicago, serving as a proud partner with CPS, City Colleges of Chicago, and other educational institutions, as well as catalyzing, supporting, and conducting meaningful community and academic engagement to improve health and health equity for Chicago citizens; and

WHEREAS, Schapiro launched the acclaimed Northwestern Academy for Chicago Public Schools, which has helped hundreds of students from underserved Chicago communities to receive mentoring and college enrichment activities, and to go on to attend quality colleges and universities; and

WHEREAS, Northwestern partnered with Lake View High School and Mather High School, neighborhood CPS schools, to support academic enrichment and mentoring activities, teacher professional development, and college and career preparation; and

WHEREAS, In 2020, during the global pandemic, Schapiro contributed funding to My CHI. My Future., a revolutionary new initiative by the City of Chicago to connect youth to hundreds of activities in a digital space where they can interact with friends and mentors; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of Northwestern President Morton Schapiro and his service to our nation, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this twenty-fifth day of May, 2022, do hereby honor Northwestern President Morton Schapiro on

the occasion of his retirement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to Morton Schapiro as a token of our esteem and good wishes.