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Legislation Text

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Committee on Finance

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Martin H. Kennelly, the 47th Mayor of the City of Chicago, served from April 15, 1947 to April 20, 1955; and

WHEREAS, Born in the Bridgeport neighborhood, the youngest of five, Martin H. Kennelly served in the Army during World War I; and

WHEREAS, After the war, Martin H. Kennelly became the founder and first president of Allied Van Lines; and

WHEREAS, During World War II, Martin H. Kennelly served as the head of the Chicago chapter of the American Red Cross; and

WHEREAS, Martin H. Kennelly succeeded Mayor Edward J. Kelly and served two terms; and

WHEREAS, Among Martin H. Kennelly's many accomplishments as Mayor were the restoration of the City Civil Service Commission, the planning of the Chicago Skyway, acquiring land for O'Hare International Airport and the establishment of the north side filtration plant; and

WHEREAS, Eugene "Gene" Sawyer, the 53rd Mayor of the City of Chicago, served from December 2, 1987 to April 24, 1989; and

WHEREAS, Born in Greensboro, Alabama, Eugene "Gene" Sawyer studied at Alabama State University and taught chemistry and mathematics before moving to Chicago to work in a laboratory; and

WHEREAS, Eugene "Gene" Sawyer worked in the Chicago Department of Water from 1959 until 1971; and

WHEREAS, Eugene "Gene" Sawyer was first elected Alderman of Chicago's 6th Ward in 1971, and served with honor and distinction in that office under four different mayors; and

WHEREAS, As Alderman, Eugene "Gene" Sawyer became President Pro Tempore of the City Council and Chairman of the City Council Committee on Committees, Rules and Ethics under Mayor Harold Washington; and

WHEREAS, In December of 1987, following the death of Mayor Washington, Eugene "Gene" Sawyer was elected by his colleagues to serve as the Mayor of the City of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Among Eugene "Gene" Sawyer's many accomplishments as Mayor were the passage of the City's Human Rights Ordinance and the Clean Indoor Air Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, At present, there are no memorials to honor the dedication and service of Mayors Kennelly and Sawyer; NOW THEREFORE

Edward M. Burke Alderman, 14th Ward

BE IT RESOLVED, That a subcommittee of the Committee on Finance is hereby created to commemorate and develop a suitable memorial honoring the service of Mayor Martin H. Kennelly and Eugene "Gene" Sawyer.