

## Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	SOr	2012-743			
Туре:	Orde	er e	Status:	Passed	
File created:	12/1	2/2012 I	In control:	City Council	
		I	Final action:	1/17/2013	
Title:	Installation of commemorative plaque on Clark Street Bridge in honor of Herman Schuenemann and loss of "Rouse Simmons" (Christmas tree schooner)				
Sponsors:	Reilly, Brendan				
Indexes:	BRIDGES & VIADUCTS				
Attachments:	1. S	Or2012-743.pdf, 2. Or2012-7	′43.pdf		
Date	Ver.	Action By	Ac	ion	Result
1/17/2013	1	City Council	Pa	ssed as Substitute	Pass
1/14/2013	1	Committee on Transportation	on and Re	commended to Pass	_
		Public Way			Pass

Committee on Transportation and Public Way City Council Meeting, December 12, 2012 Alderman Brendan Reilly, 42<sup>nd</sup> Ward Substitute Order

## SUBSTITUTE ORDER

WHEREAS, For over 25 years Herman Schuenemann, known as "Captain Santa," brought a shipload of Christmas trees to the southwest corner of the Clark Street Bridge each Christmas season to sell and give away to those in need;and

WHEREAS, Herman Schuenemann's "Christmas tree ship" was well known to Chicagoans, who looked forward to its arrival each year; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Schuenemann made yearly voyages to the upper peninsula of Michigan to bring Christmas trees to Chicago. The influx of German settlers in the Chicago area with their Christmas tree customs helped make this a successful venture; and

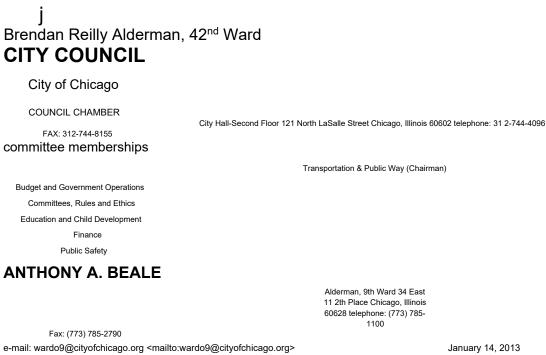
WHEREAS, Mr. Schuenemann was one of about 50 captains that shipped Christmas trees on Lake Michigan from 1880-1920, he sold directly to the public; and

WHEREAS, One hundred years ago on November 23, 1912, the schooner "Rouse Simmons" sank near Two Rivers, Wisconsin. The schooner was likely overloaded with trees and the entire crew perished; and

WHEREAS, After his death, his wife Barbara carried on by transporting the trees by rail then transferring them to the schooner "Oneida" which was docked on the Chicago River. She carried this on until her death in 1933; and

WHEREAS, To honor the memory of Herman Schuenemann and the loss of the "Rouse Simmons", the honorable Brendan Reilly is authorizing and directing the installation of a plaque on the Clark Street Bridge, which sits in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Ward; now, therefore

BE IT ORDERED, In the event that a commemorative plaque, in form and content acceptable to the Commissioner of Housing and Economic Development, is provided to the City at no cost to the City, then the Commissioner of Transportation shall install said plaque in a suitable location on the Clark Street Bridge.



January 14, 2013

To the President and Members of the City Council:

Your Committee on Transportation and Public Way begs leave to report and recommend that Your Honorable Body pass To commemorate the memory of Herman Schuenemann, known as "Captain Santa" and the loss of the "Rouse Simmons" schooner incident that occurred on November 23, 1912, by installing a plaque on the Clark Street This ordinance was referred to the Committee on Bridge. December 12, 2012.

This recommendation was concurred unanimously by a viva voce vote of the members of the Committee with no dissenting vote.

(Ward 42)

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony^B'