



# Office of the City Clerk

City Hall  
121 N. LaSalle St.  
Room 107  
Chicago, IL 60602  
www.chicityclerk.com

## Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** R2015-100  
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**Title:** Tribute to late Honorable JoAnn Thompson  
**Sponsors:** Emanuel, Rahm, Beale, Anthony, Hairston, Leslie A., Harris, Michelle A., Austin, Carrie M., Burke, Edward M., Arena, John, Zalewski, Michael R., O'Connor, Mary, Laurino, Margaret, O'Connor, Patrick, Smith, Michele, Tunney, Thomas, O'Shea, Matthew J., Silverstein, Debra L., Pope, John, Pawar, Ameya, Cappleman, James, Balcer, James, Quinn, Marty, Cullerton, Timothy M., Cardenas, George A., Reilly, Brendan, Sawyer, Roderick T., Sposato, Nicholas, Ervin, Jason C., Colón, Rey, Mell, Deborah, Waguespack, Scott, Suarez, Regner Ray, Reboyas, Ariel, Graham, Deborah L., Maldonado, Roberto, Munoz, Ricardo, Dowell, Pat, Thomas, Latasha R., Mitts, Emma, Lane, Lona, Osterman, Harry, Holmes, Natashia, Brookins, Jr., Howard, Burnett, Jr., Walter, Fioretti, Bob, Moreno, Proco Joe, Foulkes, Toni, Chandler, Michael D., Solis, Daniel, Moore, Joseph, Mendoza, Susana A.  
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**Attachments:** 1. R2015-100.pdf

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
3/10/2015	1	City Council	Adopted	Pass
3/10/2015	1	City Council	Rules Suspended - Immediate Consideration	

**Type:** Title:

### Committee(s) Assignment:

Fioretti (2) Moreno (1) Foulkes (15) Chandler (24) Solis (25) Moore (49)  
Mendoza (Clerk) Resolution

Tribute to late Honorable JoAnn Thompson

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL  
MAYOR

March 10,2015

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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith a resolution honoring the life and memory of our dear friend and colleague JoAnn Thompson.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Mayor

Very truly yours,

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

CITY CLERK SUSANA A. MENDOZA

presented by MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL

MARCH 10, 2015

With profound sadness and an overwhelming sense of loss, the Members of this Chamber mourn the death, on February 9, 2015, at age 58, of our friend and colleague Alderman JoAnn Thompson. Affectionately known as "Jo" by her family and close friends. Alderman Thompson served the people of the 16<sup>th</sup> Ward, comprising the Englewood and Gage Park neighborhoods, with impeccable dignity and honor; and ^

WHEREAS, Born on September 18, 1956, Alderman Thompson was raised on the South Side of Chicago. An intelligent and gifted person, who readily took on difficult assignments. Alderman Thompson served as a lieutenant in the Cook County Department of Corrections prior to becoming an alderman; and

WHEREAS, A strong and resilient woman. Alderman Thompson was not a stranger to

hardship. She overcame a period of homelessness, rebounded from the death of her "beloved husband in 1992, and triumphed in a bout with alcoholism following that tragic loss. Alderman Thompson was a conqueror, crediting God and a social worker at the Chicago Christian Industrial League with helping her to turn her life around. She took justifiable pride in her recovery, telling her constituents: "I represent hope"; and

WHEREAS, First elected to the Chicago City Council on April 17, 2007, and re-elected on April 5, 2011, Alderman Thompson was a tireless advocate for her community. She sponsored 437 pieces of legislation, and she was instrumental in enacting legislation to ban the sale of flavored tobacco and synthetic marijuana in Chicago. An exceptional leader, Alderman Thompson served as the Vice Chair of the City Council Committee on License and Consumer Protection, as an active member of the Black Caucus, and as Committeeman of the 16<sup>th</sup> Ward; and

WHEREAS, A public servant par excellence, who cared deeply about children, Alderman Thompson understood that the prosperity of a community is expressed in the advancement of its people. Committed to bringing jobs, economic prosperity and educational opportunities to the 16<sup>th</sup> Ward, Alderman Thompson attracted a Whole Foods grocery store to the corner of Halsted Street and 63<sup>rd</sup> Street in Chicago; urged State legislators to provide capital improvement, funding for schools; and sparks in the 16<sup>th</sup> Ward; and secured, a \$3.5 trillion. ^

AjgymndsiUm^ Oliver ^Wendell Holmes : Elementary School; and / - , ^ : -K [■] ■ " ^V; ' '-r'^"

WHEREAS, ^AW^ most vulnerable citizens. ^She cared, deeply ^db^ ' chronically homeless, the disabled and the sick. -Thanks to her efforts, the Bethel Terjace ^Senior ^ipusirig^} or ^e^6r ; : ci^^ns^ wq^e^xjp^n^ed complexes fbr^

ijv^first j^ehde^ Nation :!qnd the ^first Veterans ■ Englewood, d \$17 ' million, 99-unl7 supportive ^ chronically homeless and disabled / i 6pejne.d it^ "d^rs) ^qnd the 'Access Health Mfedicql . Cqmp'u^Whidh. includes ^ ■ research .center; -Was "Built dt 52^ . Street aka" Asnldnd Avenue; and '■■

WHEREAS, A firm believer in neighborhood beautification and equality of life, ^Alderman Thb totaling more than

\$5 million, to award grants to more neighborhood residents for sorely needed repairs to their property; the innovative "Lots of Change" program, which brought college students from across the Country to the 16<sup>th</sup> Ward to assist in the clean-up of vacant lots; and established the first-ever 16<sup>th</sup> Ward Musical Festival and the award-winning 16<sup>th</sup> Ward Track and Field Team; and

WHEREAS, Widely admired for her personal courage, leadership and grace. Alderman JoAnn Thompson will always be remembered for her caring spirit and genuine smile, and as an exemplary public servant with an abiding affection for the people of Chicago. Her legacy of service, love and compassion survives in the beautiful family she left behind

WHEREAS, JoAnn Thompson, by her three children, Joseph; Meldrick; and Josephine; and by her three children, Josephine; Meldrick; and Josephine;

■ ■ BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, do hereby extend our heartfelt condolences to the family of JoAnn Thompson.

presented to the family of JoAnn Thompson as a sign of the City's sympathy and respect. [Signature]

MAYOR

CITY CLERK