

Legislation Text

## **Amnesty International Resolution**

WHEREAS, the city of Chicago has a long, proud history of grassroots movements to promote human rights; and

WHEREAS, African Americans won the right to vote in Chicago in 1870, and the Illinois Civil Rights Act was enacted in 1885; and

WHEREAS, the Society for Human Rights was founded in Chicago in 1924 as the first gay rights organization in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, the Congress of Racial Equality was founded in 1942 in Chicago and staged sit-ins and other protests against Chicago public venues that discriminated against communities of color; and

WHEREAS, local grassroots organizing led to the school boycotts of October 1963 and February 1964 in which 400,000 students missed school to protest school segregation; and

WHEREAS, April 4 is the anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King in 1968 and reminds us of the important legacy of human rights leaders in this country; and

WHEREAS, Amnesty International USA will host its Annual General Meeting and Human Rights Conference on April 4-6 in Chicago; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2014, do hereby proclaim April 4, 2014 as Amnesty International Day of Human Rights, and we encourage all Chicagoans to welcome Amnesty members from around the country and join the celebration to promote human rights for all; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Amnesty International.

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## -William D. Burns uj ^

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Alderman, 4th Ward

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