



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

April 19, 2017

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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith, together with Aldermen Burke, Quinn and O'Shea, a congratulatory resolution concerning Special Olympian Tommy Shimoda.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Mayor

Very truly yours,

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adopud by Tlie Qity QoUHcil

<<* << GiLyof &cago7B/&S "

Aldermen Matthew J.O'Shea, Edward M. Burke,
nr\ Marty Quinh, and .

cm April 19,2017

Ifresented by ■■ Mayor ttahmEmqnuel ■

'WrlCreWS ' Thomas Shimoda was diagnosed with autism, and relies upW a voice output device called a "talker" toassjst his verbal communications;..and -X.;

. WHEREAS, Notwithstanding his autism, at age eight Tommy became involved with • Speaal Q'ympics, Chicago through -. the Mount Greenwood Special Recreation Association; where he.developed a love fprqthletics and competition; and" "

^ .JVHEREAS, An avid athlete, Tommy has competed, in over 20 different sports .with

he Chicago Park District over the last 20 .years,, including basketball Softball; volleyball

■ track and field, swimming, gymnastics, sYiowshdeing, bowling,: bocce, hockey skiina'

WHEREAS, A resident of the Mount Greenwood' neighborhood, Tommy is -a graduate of the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences; and ' . "

' : WHEREAS/Tommy is still a competitor with SpecidhOlympids^Chicdgo: and he spends: many hours each..week training Jor,speed. sl<ating«at.t.h'e Morgan Park Sports Center,.working on drills for speed; balance; and efficiency^nd " , ,

WHEREAS, tommy's training and hard wo.rk.paid <http://wo.rk.paid> off in. February, when he won two-

gold medals and a silver medal in-speed skating at the Special Olympics Illinois 2016

Skating Championships; and .-,: / .

: ". X WHEREAS, Tommy's efforts resulted in his being selected to .represent the-United' -: States as part of Team U.SA at. the 2017 SpWial'plympiGs World Winter Games in Austria ' the only Special Olympics athlete from Chicago chosen -forthis honor; and ' V" '■

; WHEREAS, At the'Special Olympics :World Winter Games more than 3 000 athletes ' ■ from around the world competed in eight.Olympic-style sporting events, including spied skating; and ' .;:--.' • - :^-'-.;yu .yj;-.' " , ■■ - -

WHEREAS, Following a send-off party attended by well-wishers at Mount Greenwood Park, Tommy traveled to Graz, Austria with his mother, aunt, brother, two friends, and his coach, who all cheered him on as he won a gold medal in the 500 meter race, and a bronze medal in the 777 meter race; and

WHEREAS, Serving as an example to us all of how hard work and perseverance can overcome adversity and lead to success, Tommy embodies the courage present in the Special Olympics athlete oath "Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt"; and

WHEREAS, In addition to being a dedicated athlete, Tommy also gives of his own time by volunteering as an assistant coach at Mount Greenwood Park; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the Members of the City Council, assembled this nineteenth day of April, 2017, do hereby express our sincere congratulations to Thomas Shimoda on his performance at the 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, and commend him for his dedication to athletics and service to the community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Thomas Shimoda as a token of our appreciation and esteem.