



Office of the City Clerk

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

Legislation Text

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COMMEMORATION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRIENDS OF THE CHICAGO RIVER

WHEREAS, for forty years, Friends of the Chicago River has promoted and protected the Chicago River system for people, plants and animals; and

WHEREAS, Friends has worked in the areas of policy, on-the-ground projects, and education on behalf of the river system; and

WHEREAS, since 1979 Friends has educated more than 400,000 students about science, nature, and the environment; received over 200,000 visitors to its McCormick Bridgehouse & Chicago River Museum, and taken 20,000 individuals canoeing to build new and future advocates, and

WHEREAS, each year Friends' Centennial Volunteers and River Action Days attract over 6,000 volunteers who participate in restoration activities instream and on adjacent lands; and

WHEREAS, each year Friends' Chicago River Day attracts about 2,000 people to around 70 locations across the Chicago region for a clean-up effort that removes tons of litter from the waterway; and

WHEREAS, the organization has worked on behalf of the Chicago River system to raise overall water quality, foster healthier wildlife habitat, reduce flooding, and raise public awareness of combined sewer overflows; and

WHEREAS, Friends has grown from a handful of people concerned about the neglect of the river system in 1979 to an organization of 10,000 members, volunteers and online advocates; and

WHEREAS, generations of Chicagoans now value the Chicago River system as a natural resource; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this tenth day of April, 2019, hereby officially commemorate the 40th anniversary of Friends of the Chicago River System; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Margaret Frisbie, Executive Director of Friends of the Chicago River

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