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City Hall
121 N. LaSalle St.
Room 107
Chicago, IL 60602
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Legislation Text

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

LORI E. LIGHTFOOT
MAYOR

April 27, 2022

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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith, together with Aldermen Osterman, Hopkins, Coleman, Taliaferro, Dowell, Ramirez-Rosa, Sigcho-Lopez, Sadlowski-Garza, Vasquez, Quinn, Reboyas, Hadden, King, Rodriguez, Cardenas, Mitts, Hairston, Nugent and La Spata, a resolution celebrating Arab American Heritage month.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, From April 1 through April 30 each year, the United States celebrates Arab American Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, Arab Americans are part of the fabric of Chicago, and have played an important role in shaping, advancing, and enriching this City with their rich cultures, traditions, and histories; and

WHEREAS, In the middle of the twentieth century, Arab Americans established communities in the Chicago Lawn and Gage Park community areas, and those neighborhoods, along with many others, remain home to thriving Arab American populations; and

WHEREAS, Arab Americans now have a significant presence throughout the City of Chicago, Cook County, and the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, The United States Census Bureau reports that the statewide Arab American population is close to 143,000, although experts estimate that this number is likely significantly lower than the actual number of Arab Americans residing in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, During Arab American Heritage Month, it is imperative to increase awareness about key issues and priorities within the Arab American community and combat harmful stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, Arab Americans have made innumerable contributions to academia, business, medicine, government, arts and sciences, and social justice, making our City a better place to live; and

WHEREAS, The City of Chicago is deeply enriched by the diversity of its residents, and the City is proud to be home to a large and thriving Arab American population; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this twenty-seventh day of April, 2022, do hereby designate April 2022 as Arab American Heritage Month in Chicago, and encourage all Chicagoans to acknowledge the contributions of Arab Americans to the vibrant culture, identity, and history of our great City.