



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

File #: R2022-953, **Version:** 1

RESOLUTION HONORING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHICAGO REPORTER

WHEREAS, In 1972, on the heels of the civil rights movement of the 1960s, The Chicago Reporter was founded by John A. McDermott, who sought to create the nation's first publication devoted to analyzing and investigating local racial issues; and

WHEREAS, The City Council has been informed of this milestone by the Honorable Brendan Reilly, Alderman of the 42nd Ward; and

WHEREAS, McDermott, active in the City's civil rights movement, saw that the era of marches and lunch counter protests had come to an end; what people needed were facts; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, The Reporter's mission has been national, but the publication has always remained grounded in Chicago, a bellwether for urban policies; and

WHEREAS, In its trademark style of dispassionate but exhaustive reporting, The Reporter broke dozens of stories documenting widespread discrimination against African Americans in corporate hiring, city services, and governmental affairs; and

WHEREAS, In 2016, The Reporter merged with its sister publication Catalyst, which for 25 years was a trusted watchdog and resource for school improvement in the City, including extensive on-the-ground reporting on a range of issues such as school choice and equity in school resources; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the years, The Reporter's staff have won numerous awards, including the Sigma Delta Chi Award for Public Service from the Society of Professional Journalists, the Clarion Award, dozens of Lisagor Awards, and a series of Kogan Awards from the Chicago Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, In the fifty years since its founding, The Reporter has continued to cover Chicago's streets, neighborhoods, and institutions, confronting racial and economic inequality using the power of investigative journalism to further its mission of documenting the struggles with the burning issues of race and poverty; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here this twenty-first day of September, 2022, do hereby wish to honor the history, the legacy, and the future of The Chicago Reporter and extend our most heartfelt and sincere admiration of this cornerstone of journalism excellence and its commitment to the fair and accurate treatment and representation of the diverse communities of the City of Chicago; and

BRENDAN REILLY Alderman, 42nd Ward

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to The Chicago Reporter as a sign of our honor and respect.