

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 the 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, Cook County, and the State of Illinois, with at least 108,000 residing in the Chicago area; 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, art, business, politics, science, and social justice and advocacy, making our communities a better place to live; and

WHEREAS, 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 seventeenth day of April, 2024, do hereby reaffirm our prior designation of April 1 through April 30 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.