

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, The world's first Parliament of the World's Religions was held in Chicago, Illinois in 1893, marking the first formal gathering of representatives from various religious traditions from around the world and then returned to Chicago in 1993 to celebrate the Parliament's 100th year anniversary; and,

**WHEREAS**, The Parliament of the World's Religions represented a historic moment of interfaith dialogue, understanding, and cooperation, paving the way for greater religious harmony and pluralism in the United States and beyond; and,

**WHEREAS**, For one hundred thirty years the Parliament of the World's Religions has convened in cities around the globe and is returning to Chicago which it considers the birthplace of the inter-faith movement; and,

**WHEREAS**, The Parliament is promoting interfaith understanding and cooperation, advancing the cause of peace, justice, and sustainability across the globe; and,

**WHEREAS**, Distinguished leaders have spoken before the Parliament of World's Religions, including Nelson Mandela, Oprah Winfrey, Dr. Jane Goodall, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and President Jimmy Carter; and,

**WHEREAS**, The City of Chicago recognizes the importance of interfaith dialogue and cooperation, and seeks to promote greater understanding and appreciation among people of different religious traditions; and,

**WHEREAS**, The City of Chicago City Council has been informed of the August 2023 return of the Parliament of the World's Religions to Chicago by the Honorable Raymond A. Lopez, Alderman of 15<sup>th</sup> Ward; and,

**WHEREAS**, This gathering provides an opportunity to celebrate the rich diversity of religious traditions, and to reaffirm our commitment to promoting interfaith understanding and cooperation, defending freedom and human rights; and,

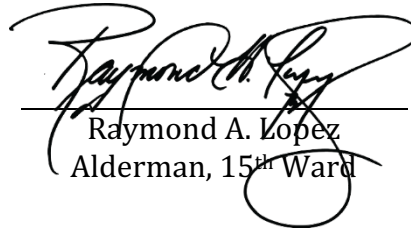
**WHEREAS**, The Parliament of World Religions will generate over \$10 million in tourist and participant-related revenues for the local economy and provide over 4,000 hours of volunteer service benefiting local charitable initiatives; now therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO**, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here this nineteenth day of July, 2023 A.D., welcome the Parliament of the World's Religions,

recognizing its focus on defending freedom and human rights, the power of diversity, addressing wealth disparities, caring for the Earth, and encouraging sustainable living; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO**, that the City of Chicago hereby designates the month of August as "Parliament of the World's Religions Month" and encourages all Chicago residents to recognize the significance of the Parliament of the World's Religions and to participate in activities and events that promote interfaith dialogue and understanding; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO**, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the organizers of the Parliament of the World's Religions.



Raymond A. Lopez  
Alderman, 15<sup>th</sup> Ward