

## **R E S O L U T I O N**

**WHEREAS**, the United States observes National Hispanic Heritage Month every year from September 15 through October 15 to recognize and celebrate the immense contributions of Hispanic and Latino peoples, who have shaped our society and culture, and helped to make the United States a diverse, thriving, and vibrant democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1988, thanks in large part to the efforts of Senator Paul Simon from Illinois, the United States Congress passed Public Law 100-402, authorizing the President of the United States to designate September 15 through October 15 as "National Hispanic Heritage Month"; and

**WHEREAS**, today, National Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated nationwide at local festivals, art shows, conferences, community gatherings, and other events emphasizing the rich history, culture, and traditions of Hispanic and Latino peoples; and

**WHEREAS**, Illinois has the fifth largest population of Hispanics and Latinos in the continental United States, and Latino and Hispanic-owned businesses represent a major economic engine in the City of Chicago; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly 820,000 Chicago residents, including more than 150,000 Chicago Public Schools students, identify as Hispanic or Latino; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's Latine leadership, including 15 members of the City Council and the City Clerk, represents a diverse group of neighborhoods and communities across Chicago; and;

**WHEREAS**, National Hispanic Heritage Month provides Chicagoans with an opportunity to reflect on our shared history and to celebrate the rich mosaic of peoples and cultures that have built and strengthened our City, and that have contributed to our collective fight for equality and justice; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this ninth day of October, 2024, do hereby recognize the celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month and designate September 15 through October 15 as Latine Heritage Month in the City of Chicago, and encourage all Chicagoans to acknowledge the impact Hispanic and Latino peoples have had on our great City.