



Legislation Text

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PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING COMMISSIONER RICHARD R. BOYKIN

WHEREAS, Commissioner Richard R. Boykin will vacate his seat on the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners on November 30, 2018 after four years of public service to the residents and visitors of Cook County as a Forest Preserve District of Cook County Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County “to acquire, restore and manage lands for the purpose of protecting and preserving public open space with its natural wonders, significant prairies, forests, wetlands, rivers, streams, and other landscapes with all of its associated wildlife, in a natural state for the education, pleasure and recreation of the public now and in the future;” and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves District of Cook County has an over one-hundred-year history, currently spans almost seventy thousand acres, shares over sixty million visits annually, and contributes immeasurably to the quality of life of residents of Cook County and scientific research and conservation, including public-private partnerships with the Brookfield Zoo and Chicago Botanic Garden; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Boykin was born in Jackson, Mississippi, raised in the Englewood community in Chicago, attended Chicago Vocational High School and later accepted an athletic scholarship to Central State University (CSU) in Ohio graduating Magna Cum Laude in 1990 with a degree in Political Science; and

WHEREAS, while at CSU, Commissioner Boykin consistently made the National Dean’s List, going on to attain the President’s Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement. In 2015, Central State University inducted Commissioner Boykin into its Achievement Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, following graduation, Commissioner Boykin returned to Chicago, to teach in the Chicago Public School system for a year, to later obtain a legal education at the University of Dayton, School of Law; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Richard R. Boykin began his career in public service as a Lyndon B. Johnson Intern for U.S. Representative Bobby Rush and as a Congressional Black Caucus Fellow for former U.S. Senator Carol Moseley-Braun, the first African American woman elected to the United States Senate. Later he served as Legislative Director and then Chief of Staff to U.S. Representative Danny K. Davis for nine years; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Richard R. Boykin served as a member of the Forest Preserves District of Cook County Board of Commissioners in the following committees: Audit, Environment and Sustainability, Finance, Finance Subcommittee on Litigation, Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations, Real Estate, Recreation, and Zoological; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and Members of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby extend our sincere and grateful appreciation to Commissioner Richard R. Boykin for his exemplary career in public service and on the Cook County Board of Commissioners, and our best wishes to him for continued success, happiness, and good health in the years to come; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy of same be tendered to Commissioner Richard R. Boykin.

