

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Department of War was first established in 1789, among the first of several military departments established by the United States of America; and,

WHEREAS, Under the National Security Act of 1947, President Harry S Truman merged the Department of War, Department of the Navy and the newly established Air Force under one unified department thereafter known as the Department of the Defense; and,

WHEREAS, The United States of America, through its Department of Defense, has enjoyed over a century of military superiority thanks in part to the ingenuity, knowledge and patriotism of diverse members of the various military branches; and,

WHEREAS, In March of 2025, Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth began removing references to Ira Hayes, the Tuskegee Airman, the Navajo Code Talkers, and other minority veteran icons after President Donald Trump painted their contributions as mere examples of DEI, ordering under Executive Order 14151: "The Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), assisted by the Attorney General and the Director of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), shall coordinate the termination of all discriminatory programs, including illegal DEI and "diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility" (DEIA) mandates, policies, programs, preferences, and activities in the Federal Government, under whatever name they appear;" and,

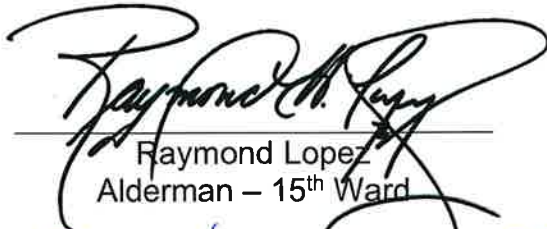
WHEREAS, The City of Chicago affirms the contributions of all American veterans regardless of race, color, or creed, especially those brave men and women that served in our Armed Forces from the City itself, notably Ira Hayes; and,

WHEREAS, Ira Hayes was born on January 12th, 1923 in Chicago. B Company, 3rd Parachute Battallion, Divisional Special Troops, 3rd Marine Division, pictured in the historic photo of Americans raising the flag over Iwo Jima, and asked for a posthumous pardon for his criminal record by this august body in 2022; 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 _____ Day of _____, 2025, call on Department of War Secretary Pete Hegseth to restore the legacy of Ira Hayes and all diverse veterans to all

places of knowledge and honor that is owed to them for their service to these United States of America; and,

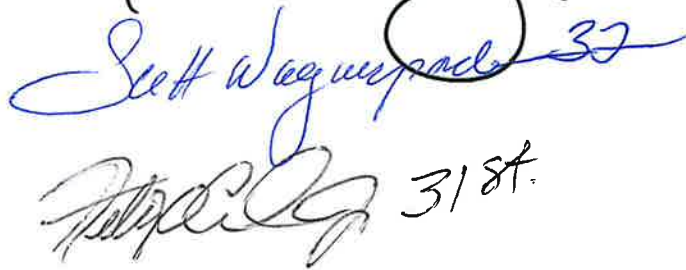
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO that a suitable copy of this resolution be sent to Secretary Pete Hegseth.



Raymond Lopez
Alderman – 15th Ward



Gilbert Villegas
Alderwoman – 36th Ward



Seth Waguespack 32



Mike Coughlin 31st



C. L. T. J. (29)