

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-52

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

April 2, 2019

To recognize the month of May as Jewish American Heritage Month and to recognize the vast contributions Jewish Americans have made to the United States and the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2006, President George W. Bush proclaimed that May would be Jewish American Heritage Month;

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia is home to more than 28,000 Jewish Americans, and it is estimated that more than 300,000 Jewish Americans live in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, making it the third-largest Jewish population in the United States;

WHEREAS, Jewish Americans have contributed greatly to the social, economic, and political development of the District throughout its history;

WHEREAS, the first known Jewish resident of the District of Columbia, Isaac Pollock, completed the buildings which then housed the United States Department of State, Secretary of the Navy, and later served as the homes of 3 Secretaries of State;

WHEREAS, countless residents of Jewish descent serve the District of Columbia in the areas of public service, education, business, technology, healthcare, family services, the arts, and culture;

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia's Jewish community was particularly active in the Civil Rights Movement and worked with local leaders to promote a peaceful transition to integration;

WHEREAS, May has become a symbolic month to celebrate the generations of Jewish Americans who have helped shape both the District's and American culture, society, and history; and

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WHEREAS, the theme for the May 2019 celebration of Jewish American Heritage Month is American Jewish Illustrators, which highlights the many American Jews who have helped create the nation's beloved children's books, iconic graphic novels and their superheroes, and syndicated comics and illustrations.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Jewish American Heritage Month Recognition Resolution of 2019".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes the outstanding contributions and valued accomplishments of the Jewish American community in the District of Columbia and the United States of America, and celebrates the rich cultural heritage of Jewish Americans.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.