

BY ALDS. PEREZ, CHAMBERS, MOORE, TAYLOR, BROWER, SPIKER, BURGELIS,
BAUMAN, JACKSON, WESTMORELAND, PRATT, COGGS, ZAMARRIPA, STAMPER

Resolution recognizing the work of Maestro Luis R. López on the occasion of a celebration of life event in his honor at South Division High School.

WHEREAS,

MAESTRO LUIS R. LÓPEZ

was recognized for his distinguished career as an educator and for his life's work during a special posthumous celebration of life event held at South Division High School, 1515 W. Lapham Blvd., on June 13, 2026; and

WHEREAS, *Maestro Luis Rodolfo López became the first bilingual teacher at South Division High School in Milwaukee Public Schools and the state of Wisconsin in 1970, and he taught Hispanic American Culture, bilingual U.S. history, and language courses to bilingual students at South Division; and*

WHEREAS, *Maestro López was well known for his charismatic and unwavering support for his students at SDHS, and in 1972, he was instrumental in sponsoring the first Hispanic student South Division High School Prom dance at the Marc Plaza Hotel in downtown Milwaukee; and*

WHEREAS, *As a guidance counselor, Maestro López further supported students' academic and personal growth, always centering their dignity and potential, and beyond the classroom, he was a relentless advocate for student belonging and cultural pride, including creating inclusive spaces where students felt seen and celebrated, and further supporting students' academic and personal growth, while always centering their dignity and potential; and*

WHEREAS, *The advocacy of Maestro López extended well beyond the school walls, as he served his community through organizations such as UMOS, United Community Center, and Mexican Fiesta, while also contributing to faith-based initiatives at Guadalupe Church, and he remained committed to education throughout his life, teaching adult learners in ESL (English as Second Language) and Adult High School programs at MATC, ensuring that opportunity was accessible at every stage of life; and*

WHEREAS, *Maestro Luis R. López, who passed away in 2018 at the age of 81, was more than an educator — he was a trailblazer, mentor, and champion for equity, and his legacy lives on through the countless lives he transformed, the doors he opened, and the community he strengthened; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith recognizes the work and profound impact of Maestro Luis R. López on the occasion of a celebration of life event in his honor at South Division High School; and, be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Maestro Luis R. López.*

Introduced by Common Council members José G. Pérez, JoCasta Zamarripa, Mark Chambers, Jr., Sharlen P. Moore, Larresa Taylor, Alex Brower, Scott Spiker, Peter Burgelis, Robert J. Bauman, DiAndre Jackson, Lamont Westmoreland, Andrea M. Pratt, Milele A. Coggs, Russell W. Stamper, II, and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on June 2, 2026.