

BY ALDS. BOHL, HAMILTON, COGGS, STAMPER, BORKOWSKI, WITKOWSKI, PEREZ, LEWIS,  
RAINEY, JOHNSON

*Resolution welcoming the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia to Milwaukee for their international convention.*

**WHEREAS,**

## **THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GERMANS FROM RUSSIA**

*held their international convention in Milwaukee in order to celebrate the history of their Russian German heritage.*

**WHEREAS,** *People from all over the world have immigrated to Milwaukee to make better lives for themselves, but it is particularly German Americans that stand out as a distinct group in making Milwaukee a truly unique American city; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *Germans immigrated to Milwaukee in large numbers from the mid-1800's to the early 1900's. By 1900, 34% of Milwaukee's population was German, and even today well over one-half of the people of this region are related to persons of German origin; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *German Americans helped to provide a distinct landscape to the city of Milwaukee as titans of beer and industry. Other Germans were common laborers who worked on farms and in factories. Some were skilled craftsmen who worked with wood and metal, and others were teachers, doctors, engineers, inventors, and housewives. Together they helped build Milwaukee's homes, roads, schools, parks, churches, and businesses; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *Volga Germans were among the many distinct German groups who helped shape the fabric of this city and region. The first of their group arrived around 1910 after seeking winter quarters following the harvest of sugar beet fields in communities south of the city. Many found winter work in North Milwaukee and eventually settled there, locating steady work in local factories. By 1930, about 230 Russian German families lived in North Milwaukee, with recent numbers augmented by Volga Germans who moved "back east" from Nebraska, Colorado and Kansas during the 1920s following a series of railroad strikes. In 1930 alone, an additional 50 Volga German families came to Milwaukee; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *The American Historical Society of Germans from Russia (AHSGR) convened in Milwaukee from August 27-31, 2017 for their organization's international convention to celebrate the history and culture of their distinguished Russian German heritage; now, therefore, be it*

**RESOLVED,** *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith welcomes the AHSGR to the city, expresses its appreciation of its own Volga German patrimony, recognizes the significant contributions that Russian Germans have had on this region and the county, and wishes all participants of the AHSGR convention a truly successful visit to Milwaukee; and, be it*

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** *that a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia.*

**Introduced by Common Council members Jim Bohl, Ashanti Hamilton, Milele A. Coggs, Russell W. Stamper, II, Mark A. Borkowski, Terry L. Witkowski, José G. Pérez, Chantia Lewis, Khalif J. Rainey and Cavalier Johnson and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on July 11, 2017.**