

BY ALDS RAINEY, CHAMBERS, BROSTOFF, BAUMAN, COGGS, ZAMARRIPA, BORKOWSKI,
PEREZ, SPIKER, STAMPER

Resolution expressing condolences to the family and friends of Geraldine Boykin

WHEREAS,

GERALDINE BOYKIN

passed from this life at the age of 87 on January 13, 2023, after decades served as a labor and civil rights activist; and

WHEREAS, *Geraldine Boykin, compelled by her experiences in the Jim Crow South, moved to the District of Columbia as a young woman where she later became a volunteer in the planning of the “March on Washington;” and*

WHEREAS, *Geraldine Boykin, as a member of the Congress of Racial Equality, marched to end discrimination perpetrated against African-Americans by D.C. area department stores, and alongside other activists founded the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, an organization instrumental in coordinating lobbying efforts for the enactment of the 1964 Civil Rights Bill and the 1965 Voting Rights Bill; and,*

WHEREAS, *Geraldine Boykin was among the vanguard of labor activism in D.C. during the 1980s, serving as one the first Black women to lead a union during her time as the executive director of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees’ District Council 20; and,*

WHEREAS, *Geraldine was a gifted and impassioned organizer, founding and serving as the first president of the D.C. Chapter of the Coalition Of Black Trade Unionists, an executive board member of the National Congress of Black Women as well as the founding president of the National Congress of Black Women’s D.C. Chapter; and,*

WHEREAS, *Geraldine Boykin, a widower and single mother in life, is survived by her beloved daughter Jeannetta “BeBe” Boykin; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith offers its sincere condolences to the family and friends of Geraldine Boykin who, having lived an exceptional life punctuated by a great many achievements, will be remembered fondly for her unwavering and unapologetic commitment to justice; and, be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That a suitably engrossed copy of the resolution be presented to the family of Geraldine Boykin.*

Introduced by Common Council members Khalif J. Rainey, José G. Pérez, Mark Chambers, Jr., Jonathan Brostoff, Robert J. Bauman, Milele A. Coggs, JoCasta Zamarripa, Mark A. Borkowski, Scott Spiker, and Russell W. Stamper, II. and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on February 28, 2023.