

BY ALDS. RAINEY, HAMILTON, COGGS, STAMPER, SPIKER, BORKOWSKI, PÉREZ, LEWIS, JOHNSON, DODD

Resolution honoring John Lewis for his service as a civil rights leader and congressman.

WHEREAS,

JOHN LEWIS

passed from this life on July 17, 2020 at the age of 80 after being a prominent voice for civil rights and an American history icon; and

WHEREAS, *John Lewis was born on February 21, 1940 in Alabama where he experienced segregation and discrimination based on his race, but he was inspired as a young boy by the Montgomery Bus Boycott and Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. to take part in the civil rights movement; and*

WHEREAS, *John Lewis attended Fisk University where he continually risked his life by challenging Jim Crow segregation in the South, and from 1963 to 1966, he was named Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee; and*

WHEREAS, *John Lewis became a national voice for civil rights, and he was a guiding leader and speaker at the March on Washington in August 1963, and with another civil rights leader, Hosea Williams, he led peaceful protestors across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama where he further risked his life for demonstrating the need for voting rights; and*

WHEREAS, *John Lewis continued his dedication to furthering civil rights through nonviolence, and in 1981, he was elected to the Atlanta City Council, and in 1986, he was elected to Congress where he served Georgia's Fifth Congressional District until his passing; and*

WHEREAS, *John Lewis tirelessly devoted his life to bringing justice to all Americans, and his decades of public service and accomplishments have shaped an inspiring pathway for continuing advocacy for civil rights; 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 John Lewis, and notes the upstanding civil rights activism and leadership that he will be remembered for; and, be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the family of John Lewis.*

Introduced by Common Council members Khalif J. Rainey, Ashanti Hamilton, Milele A. Coggs, Russell W. Stamper, II, Scott Spiker, Mark A. Borkowski, José G. Pérez, Chantia Lewis, Nikiya Dodd and Cavalier Johnson and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on July 28, 2020.