

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

22-367

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

June 26, 2018

To honor Dolores Clara Fernández Huerta for her dedication to humanity and workers' rights.

WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta was born to parents Juan Fernández, a union organizer and New Mexico State Legislator, and Alicia Chávez, a businesswoman and community activist, on April 10, 1930, in New Mexico;

WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta was raised in the culturally diverse central California farmworker community of Stockton, California, where she became active in student affairs and the Girl Scouts of America;

WHEREAS, after graduating Stockton College with a degree in teaching, Dolores Huerta became an elementary school teacher, beginning her lifelong passion for working with children;

WHEREAS, in 1955, Dolores Huerta helped Fred Ross begin the Stockton, CA Chapter of the Community Service Organization, which fought for economic improvements for Latinos;

WHEREAS, in 1960, Dolores Huerta co-founded the Agricultural Workers Association, which advocated for civic participation and reforms for better working and living conditions for those in distressed neighborhoods;

WHEREAS, in 1962, Dolores Huerta co-founded, with César Chávez, the National Farm Workers Association, which would later become the United Farm Workers of America ("UFW");

WHEREAS, in 1965, Dolores Huerta directed the UFW's national boycott during the Delano grape strike, taking the plight of the farmworkers to the American public, which resulted in the first collective bargaining agreement within the grape industry;

WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta became a leader in the Feminist Majority Movement by encouraging Latinas to run for public office across the nation;

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WHEREAS, for over 60 years, Dolores Huerta has dedicated her life to bringing about economic and social change through peaceful protest, human development, and legislative advancements;

WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta is President of the Dolores Huerta Foundation (“DHF”), which organizes at the grassroots level, engaging and developing natural leaders;

WHEREAS, DHF creates leadership opportunities for community organizing, leadership development, civic engagement, and policy advocacy in the priority areas of health and the environment, education and youth development, and economic development;

WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta has received numerous awards and accolades in recognition of her outstanding career, including placement on the “100 Most Important Women of the 20th Century” list by the Ladies’ Home Journal and presentation of the Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights by President William Jefferson Clinton and the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama;

WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta has been an outspoken advocate in support of congressional representation and statehood for the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta began the organizing slogan “Sí se puede”, which is used by political and social organizations to uplift and inspire the accomplishment of goals.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Dolores Clara Fernández Huerta Recognition Resolution of 2018”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes Dolores Clara Fernández Huerta along with the services and contributions she has rendered to nation.

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