

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-14

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

February 5, 2019

To honor and acknowledge the Korean-American Grocers Association of Greater Washington, DC for its advocacy on behalf of Korean-American business owners in the District of Columbia, and for its commitment to expanding access to education for District youth.

WHEREAS, KAGRO International is a global organization dedicated in furthering the interests of the grocers and food distributors of Korean descent around the world;

WHEREAS, in 1987, 2 groups of grocers located in California and Philadelphia collaborated to form KAGRO in 1989;

WHEREAS, by 1991, 6 additional chapters in Atlanta, Baltimore, Dallas, New York, Seattle, and Washington D.C., were included within KAGRO;

WHEREAS, currently 29 chapters make up KAGRO International across the North American hemisphere, representing roughly 35,000 members, with purchasing revenue of roughly \$30 billion;

WHEREAS, KAGRO assists Korean-American retailers in adaptation to American culture, lifestyle, and business, and plays a vital role as an information exchange and clearinghouse on matters concerning business, legislation, and legal and regulatory issues essential to the successful operation of a retail enterprise;

WHEREAS, KAGRO has been involved in implementing programs for purchasing, distribution, import and export, and has provided research and development to its domestic and international membership;

WHEREAS, KAGRO serves to work towards the betterment of the Korean-American community as well as other communities in which KAGRO members conduct their business;

WHEREAS, the Korean-American Grocers Association of Greater Washington, DC (“KAGRO-DC”) is a charter chapter of National KAGRO and formerly known as the Korean-American Business Association;

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

WHEREAS, KAGRO-DC is an advocacy organization dedicated to furthering the interests of Korean American business owners in the District;

WHEREAS, KAGRO-DC was founded with the hope of creating a united information-sharing, problem-solving network;

WHEREAS, Korean Americans have contributed greatly to the social, economic, and political development of the District throughout its history and have added cultural vibrancy;

WHEREAS, countless residents of Korean heritage serve the District of Columbia in areas of public service, education, business, technology, healthcare, family services, the arts, and culture;

WHEREAS, KAGRO-DC holds an annual scholarship award banquet where it awards a financial scholarship to promising District high school seniors who have committed to attending college in the fall;

WHEREAS, since 1987, KAGRO-DC has awarded over \$300,000 to more than 300 District students through the Annual Scholarship Award Banquet;

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2019, KAGRO-DC held its 30th Annual Scholarship Banquet at the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of its President, John Yoo, the Korean-American Grocers Association of Greater Washington, DC continues to be a valued community partner with the District of Columbia.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Korean-American Grocers Association of Greater Washington DC Recognition Resolution of 2019”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia heartily congratulates and acknowledges the Korean-American Grocers Association of Greater Washington DC for aiding in the distribution of goods and services, for its earnest advocacy on behalf of Korean-American business owners in the District, and for its commitment to expanding access to education for District youth.

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