ENROLLED ORIGINAL

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

<u>23-76</u>

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

May 7, 2019

To celebrate the Step Afrika!'s 25th Anniversary Gala and to recognize Step Afrika! for 25 years of supporting and teaching young people in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, Step Afrika! was founded in 1994, making it the first professional company dedicated to the tradition of stepping;

WHEREAS, Step Afrika! blends percussive dance styles practiced by historically African American fraternities and sororities, African traditional dance, and influences from a variety of other dance and art forms;

WHEREAS, Step Afrika! uses the art of stepping as an educational tool for young people and focuses on teamwork, academic achievement, and cross-cultural understanding;

WHEREAS, through their annual 50-city tour of colleges and theatres, Step Afrika! can reach tens of thousands of Americans every year, as well as people worldwide through their global performances;

WHEREAS, Step Afrika! holds workshops, residency programs, and a variety of arts education activities for K-12 and college students in its home of Washington, D.C. and cities around the world;

WHEREAS, Step Afrika! currently ranks as one of the top ten African American dance companies in the United States;

WHEREAS, on Thursday, June 6th, 2019, Step Afrika! will hold their 25th Anniversary Gala, with District of Columbia Mayor, Muriel Bowser, serving as Honorary Chair to celebrate all the accomplishments of the organization throughout their spectacular history; and

WHEREAS, after 25 years of service to Ward 4, the District of Columbia, and young people across the country, Step Afrika! continues its commitment to guiding and supporting young people.

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RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Step Afrika! 25th Anniversary Gala Ceremonial Recognition Resolution of 2019".

- Sec. 2. The Council congratulates Step Afrika! on its 25th Anniversary Gala and recognizes the organization for its commitment to serving the residents of Ward 4 and the District of Columbia.
- Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.