

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-247

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

March 3, 2020

To posthumously celebrate the life of Harold “Ike” Foster a native Washingtonian and Ward 8 resident for his passion and joy in serving the Ward 8 community.

WHEREAS, Harold Foster, affectionately known as “Ike”, was born on November 20, 1950 and raised in Washington D.C.;

WHEREAS, Mr. Foster passed away on July 19, 2018;

WHEREAS, Mr. Foster was a loving father of 4 children, Harold Maurice Foreman, Ieasha Denise Morris, Deshawnda Johnson, and Cachet Davis;

WHEREAS, Mr. Foster had a photogenic memory and through his own studies was able to recite Black history facts in sequential order beginning when the first Africans were brought to the US in 1619 up until the time of his passing in 2018;

WHEREAS, Mr. Foster received the unsung hero award from the Executive Office of the Mayor in 2018 for his tireless work in DC underserved communities;

WHEREAS, using his innovative teaching techniques Mr. Foster imparted valuable African American history and basic life skills to Southeast DC’s young residents through his widely acclaimed “Out of the Mouth of Babes” Program;

WHEREAS, as a tireless fighter for low wage workers, Mr. Foster organized and led protests to secure higher wages for federal service workers as well as giving them a seat at the table in deciding workplace issues;

WHEREAS, continuing his work with Washington’s young people, Mr. Foster was an integral leader in the after-school program at Malcolm X Elementary School in Southeast;

WHEREAS, Mr. Foster was at the forefront of efforts to petition city leadership to provide better facilities and programs for Southeast residents;

WHEREAS, Mr. Foster was a role model and advocate for the ex-offender community supporting reforms, knocking down barriers and providing pathways for ex-offenders to become productive citizens;

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WHEREAS, Mr. Foster was relentless in registering young and elderly residents to participate in the electoral process as a strategy to bring about change in our communities;

WHEREAS, on election day, Mr. Foster would drive around the neighborhoods in a van and pick up people and take them to the polls;

WHEREAS, Mr. Foster was a genuine advocate and “go to person” for elderly residents needing assistance in the winter and summer months;

WHEREAS, Mr. Foster will be greatly missed by his beloved family and the greater Ward 8 community.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Harold “Ike” Foster Ceremonial Posthumous Recognition Resolution of 2020.”

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia Posthumously honors Harold “Ike” Foster for his life that he poured out in service to the community.

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