

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-329

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 1, 2020

To recognize and honor Gale Black for her outstanding accomplishments as a public servant and commend her for her civic and charitable contributions to the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, Gale Black is a fourth generation Washingtonian;

WHEREAS, Gale Black is a graduate and noted alumna of American University, where she received her bachelor's degree as well as her Juris Doctor degree;

WHEREAS, in 1975, Gale Black started working for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) as a civil rights lawyer;

WHEREAS, Gale Black has worked for the EEOC for 35 years and has argued cases on behalf of the government in the U.S. Courts of Appeal and is a member of the Bar of the United States Supreme Court;

WHEREAS, Gale Black wrote EEOC's decision in *Baldwin v. Foxx*, which formed the basis of the recent Supreme Court decisions, stating that sexual orientation and gender identity are protected by the Civil Rights Act;

WHEREAS, Gale Black received the EEOC's Core Award in 2003 for her role in creating a management directive that provides federal agencies guidance about how to best combat systemic discrimination;

WHEREAS, Gale Black served as a political appointee under the Clinton Administration in the U.S. Department of Labor as Counselor and Chief of Staff for the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs from 1994-2001;

WHEREAS, throughout Gale Black's career, she has fought for the rights of others and served throughout the federal government including as Associate Counsel for Civil Rights for the US House of Representatives' Committee on Education and Labor;

WHEREAS, Gale Black is an elected six-term commissioner of ANC 4A08 and has served on the Commission since 2009;

**ENROLLED ORIGINAL**

WHEREAS, Gale Black was also elected as the Chair of ANC 4A serving in the 2017 and 2019 to 2020 terms;

WHEREAS, Gale Black was appointed by Adrian Fenty to be the Ward 4 Representative for the city's reworking of the District's Comprehensive Plan;

WHEREAS, from 2004-2014, Gale Black served as the President of the Crestwood Citizen's Association, revamping the organization and revitalizing neighborhood traditions;

WHEREAS, Gale Black worked with law enforcement officials to reduce crime in her neighborhood and twice received the Citizen of the Year Award from the Metropolitan Police Department;

WHEREAS, Gale Black serves as the President of the Church Council at the Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church; and

WHEREAS, after living in almost every ward, Gale Black has settled in Ward 4, and is a mother of 2 children and grandmother of one.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Gale Black Ceremonial Recognition Resolution of 2020".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes, honors, and congratulates Gale Black for the valuable contributions she has made during her 35-year career as a civil rights attorney and civic leader in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.