

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-2

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

January 17, 2023

To recognize the Chinese community in the District of Columbia for its generous and valued contributions to the social, cultural, and political life of the city and to honor the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association for its sponsorship of the parade to celebrate the Year of the Rabbit.

WHEREAS, Chinese people have lived in the District of Columbia as a community since at least 1884, when nearly 100 immigrants settled near 3rd Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., and remained there until 1935, when the settlement moved to its current location along H Street, N.W., which is commonly known as “Chinatown”;

WHEREAS, today there are more than 40 Chinese businesses and hundreds of Chinese residents in Chinatown, which serves as the center of health care, dining, and shopping for the thousands of Chinese residents in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area;

WHEREAS, Chinatown is a unique cultural and social center for the District, providing visitors with a taste of Chinese culture;

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia’s commitment to the Chinese community continues as the government strives to improve services for the Chinese community through the establishment of the Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs, the Metropolitan Police Department’s Asian Liaison Unit, and the Chinatown Community Cultural Center, which we salute;

WHEREAS, thousands of District of Columbia residents will gather along H Street and 7th Street, N.W, on Sunday, January 22, 2023 to enjoy the dragon-led parade and celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year; and

WHEREAS, the annual anniversary celebration and parade for the Chinese Lunar New Year, sponsored by the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, is nationally known as one of the finest celebrations of color, art, and pageantry.

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RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Chinese Lunar New Year 4721, Year of the Rabbit Recognition Resolution of 2023".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia salutes the Chinese community of the District of Columbia and the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association for their many contributions to the social, economic, cultural, and political life of the city. Further, the Council thanks the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association and the Parade Committee for sponsoring the parade to celebrate the Chinese New Year, and declares Sunday, January 22, 2023, as "Chinese Lunar New Year 4721, Year of the Rabbit Day" in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.