

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

22-310

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

April 10, 2018

To recognize, thank, and honor Michael Williams for his service to the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, Michael Williams was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, the son of George and Helen Williams;

WHEREAS, Michael Williams as a youth was trained to be a civil rights activist and belonged to several civil rights organizations;

WHEREAS, Michael Williams graduated from Princeton High School class of 1967 and was an all-state running back;

WHEREAS, Michael Williams received an athletic scholarship to play football at Indiana State University but left to continue fighting for civil rights, travelling to Mississippi and other areas of the South;

WHEREAS, Michael Williams was a Co-Founder of the Black Panther Party, Cincinnati, Ohio;

WHEREAS, Michael Williams received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Economy from Antioch College in 1972;

WHEREAS, Michael Williams received a Juris Doctorate from Antioch School of Law (now the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law) in 1975, a member of the first graduating class of Antioch School of Law;

WHEREAS, Michael Williams worked to support tenants' rights as Director of the City-Wide Housing Coalition and as a member of other organizations that helped enact rent control, the 1974 condo conversion moratorium, the first right of refusal law, and organized tenants to advocate for greater control of housing issues;

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WHEREAS, Michael Williams has served in all 3 branches of District government including as a Law Clerk for Superior Court of the District of Columbia Judge Harry Touissant Alexander, Legislative Assistant for Councilmember Hilda Howland Mason, and numerous positions with the Executive Branch;

WHEREAS, Michael Williams served for over 20 years with the Department of Parks and Recreation (“DPR”) and, as Capitol Project Coordinator, he created the Urban Regional Recreation System, which was the developmental plan for the creation of modern recreation centers such as Turkey Thicket, Takoma Recreation, Deanwood, Kennedy, Sherwood, and a host of other recreation sites;

WHEREAS, during his service with DPR, Michael Williams served as the Athletic Director, Policy and Planning Administrator, and Administrator for Community Based Programs, and he also served as Athletic Director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington;

WHEREAS, during this overall service, Michael Williams provided grants to Neighborhood Planning Council., managed over 100 football teams and 200 basketball teams, served as the liaison for youth and high school baseball, and was the President of Play Ball, DC;

WHEREAS, Michael Williams had the courage on several occasions to expose waste, fraud, and abuse within the District government as evidenced by the whistleblower lawsuit he filed, *Michael Williams v District of Columbia* (2010);

WHEREAS, Michael Williams helped developed the “Recreation Act of 1994” which created a fund to capture fees, donations, and income from outside sources, established the Recreation Advisory Board, and placed the Director of DPR on the Board of the Sports and Entertainment Commission;

WHEREAS, Michael Williams served as Program Manager with the District of Columbia State Athletic Authority (“DCSAA”) and currently serves as Financial and Management Analyst for DCSAA;

WHEREAS, Michael Williams has been a resident of Ward 5 for 37 years; and

WHEREAS, Michael Williams has been married to Ivana Roberts Williams for 36 years, and they have 4 sons, Jared, Joseph, Malik, and Anthony, and 4 grandchildren, Javon, Landon, Jayden, and Logan.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Michael Williams Recognition Resolution of 2018”.

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes, thanks, and honors Michael Williams for his long service in many different capacities to the District of Columbia and its citizens.

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