

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-171

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

February 6, 2024

To honor the inventors of the past, recognize the creators of the present, encourage the architects of the future, and declare February 11, 2024 as “Inventors’ Day” in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, without inventors, most modern conveniences would not be possible;

WHEREAS, the spirit of invention has led to many failures from which greater successes were born;

WHEREAS, there are several hundred patents filed by District resident inventors every year;

WHEREAS, the District is home to many notable inventions such as go-go music, known for its funk, blues and salsa influences;

WHEREAS, the first experimental telegraph was sent by Samuel F.B. Morse in 1844 from Washington, D.C. to Baltimore;

WHEREAS, the Rickey cocktail was invented for, and named after, DC lobbyist Joe Rickey at Shoomaker’s bar in DC in 1883;

WHEREAS, DC’s Ellen Eglin invented a groundbreaking type of clothes wringer for washing machines in 1888 which is still used for mops today;

WHEREAS, the modern drinking straw was created in DC by inventor Marvin Stone in 1888;

WHEREAS, the binder clip was created in DC by Washingtonian Louis Baltzey in 1910;

WHEREAS, Briggs & Co., a DC meat packing business, is credited with inventing the half-smoke sausage in the 1930s;

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WHEREAS, it was DC native Charles Richard Drew who discovered how to store blood plasma in 1941, saving countless lives in World War II and changing the course of modern surgery;

WHEREAS, the record for the largest number of patents held by a black woman is still held by DC inventor Mary Kenner who is best known for her development of the adjustable sanitary belt in 1954;

WHEREAS, the District is home to the National Inventors Hall of Fame Museum, which offers dynamic exhibits and experiences exploring the stories and inventions of more than 600 inventors.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Inventors’ Day Recognition Resolution of 2024”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors inventors for their contributions to the District of Columbia and to society more broadly as they identify problems and develop new solutions to them.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.