

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION HONORING CORETTA SCOTT KING

WHEREAS, the Chicago Board of Education, Officers, Staff, Principals, teachers and students pause to pay tribute to the life and work of Coretta Scott King, the first lady of the civil rights movement, who passed away on January 31, 2006; and,

WHEREAS, Coretta Scott King was born in Perry County, Alabama on April 27, 1927; and,

WHEREAS, Coretta Scott King attended Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio earning a bachelor's in music and education and later studying concert singing at Boston's New England Conservatory of Music; and,

WHEREAS, in June 1953, Coretta Scott King married Martin Luther King Jr. in Marion Alabama and had four children; and,

WHEREAS, from 1953 until April 4, 1968, Coretta Scott King worked, counseled and supported her husband as he led national civil rights campaigns, which include the Montgomery Alabama Bus Boycott (1955-56), the March on Washington (1963) and the March from Selma, Alabama to Montgomery, Alabama on the voting rights law (1965); and,

WHEREAS, after the death of her husband, Coretta Scott King worked tirelessly to continue her husband's work of peace and brotherhood; and,

WHEREAS, in 1968, Coretta Scott King founded the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Center in Atlanta, as a teaching facility and museum to continue to address the issues important to her and her husband, such as unemployment, voting rights and racism; and,

WHEREAS, in 1983, due to Coretta Scott King's persistence, the United States of America established the third Monday of January as the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Holiday; and, in 1986, held the first national celebration of the King holiday; and,

WHEREAS, Coretta Scott King will be remembered as a crusader for the civil rights movement who devoted much of her life to preserving the remarkable legacy of her husband, Reverend Martin Luther King Jr.; and,

WHEREAS, Coretta Scott King's grace, dignity and leadership in the face of personal tragedy has been and will continue to be an invaluable lesson for the citizens of Chicago and the nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the President and Members of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, gathered here this 22nd day of February 2006 and do hereby remember and honor Coretta Scott King, her remarkable life and indomitable spirit.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Memorial Resolution be made available to the family of Coretta Scott King.