

09-0002 - 560

RULES & GOVERNMENT

RESOLUTION

APR 08 2009

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez was the grandson of a Mexican immigrant who grew up working with migrant farm workers, picking grapes, melons, beans, and other crops at low wages and for long hours; and

WHEREAS, early in his career Cesar Chavez committed himself to organizing farm workers to campaign for safe and fair working conditions, reasonable wages, decent housing, and the outlawing of child labor; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, Cesar Chavez founded the National Farm Workers Association, predecessor of the United Farm Workers of America, which brought hope to farm workers that they might one day realize the basic protections and workers' rights to which all Americans aspire; and

WHEREAS, the influence of Cesar Chavez extends far beyond agriculture and provides inspiration for those working to better human rights through his example of organizing voter registration drives in urban and farm areas, initiating complaints against mistreatment by police and welfare officials, and empowering workers to seek advancement in education and politics; and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and numerous holidays, schools, parks and libraries have been named in his honor; and

WHEREAS, the United States should not cease its efforts to improve the conditions of farm workers, remembering the rallying cry of Cesar Chavez, 'Si se puede!' (Yes we can!); and


WHEREAS, the City and the State now recognize a holiday to honor the life and work of Cesar Chavez; and


WHEREAS, currently pending before Congress is HR 213 (Baca), which would establish a legal public holiday in the honor of Cesar E. Chavez; and

WHEREAS, support for HR 213 would encourage public schools and educational institutions to commemorate the life and legacy of Cesar E. Chavez;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby include in its 2009-2010 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT of HR 213 (Baca), that would establish a national legal public holiday in the honor of Cesar E. Chavez.

PRESENTED BY:   
JOSE HUIZAR  
Councilmember, 14<sup>th</sup> District

 RA  
RICHARD ALARCON  
Councilmember, 7<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: 

  
APR - 8 2009

ORIGINAL