

Mayor Freeman Bosley Jr.

WHEREAS, April 20th, 2013 marked the twentieth anniversary of the inauguration of Freeman R. Bosley, Jr. as the forty-seventh and the first African-American Mayor of the City of St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, Freeman Bosley Jr. won his first citywide elected office in 1982, when he became the first African American to serve as St. Louis Circuit Clerk for the 22nd Judicial Circuit; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bosley Jr. also served as the first African American chairman of the St. Louis Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, after only a few months of his historic mayoral victory, Mayor Bosley faced a daunting test which he passed with flying colors – the great flood of 1993. As Mayor, he made all the right decisions and put in the hard work to minimize the effects the natural disaster had on residents of the city of St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Freeman Bosley Jr.'s many notable and successful achievements still bear fruit for the residents of the city of St. Louis and the surrounding metropolitan area to this day; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Bosley coordinated the \$70 million buyout of Trans World Airlines (TWA) and the move of their world headquarters to St. Louis, played a major role in getting the St. Louis Rams football team to move to St. Louis in 1995, and also spearheaded the creation of the Forest Park Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Bosley understood that it takes an operating budget to properly run and manage a city like St. Louis. After many unsuccessful attempts by the previous mayor to pass a sales tax increase to increase the city's budget, Freeman Bosley Jr.'s popularity in the African American community and the goodwill he gained by his management of the flood that affected south St. Louis allowed him to get sales tax increases passed that provided more funding for capital improvements and the general operating budget. Without those additional funding sources, the city of St. Louis would not be able to provide the level of service that it does today.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the 20th anniversary of the inauguration of Mayor Freeman R. Bosley Jr. and we wish him continued success, achievement and accomplishment and we further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 21st day of April, 2013 by:

Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President of the Board of Aldermen

Adopted this the 21st day of April, 2013 as attested by: