

RESOLUTION NUMBER 75

Eddie Levert

WHEREAS, Eddie Levert is the lead vocalist of the soul/funk/R&B vocal group, The O'Jays; and

WHEREAS, The O'Jays were originally known as The Triumphs and The Mascots. They were officially known as The O'Jays after they got their name from DJ Eddie O'Jay. Their first big hit was "Lonely Drifter" which was lifted off their debut album Comin Through. The O'Jays are best known by their major hits "Back Stabbers," "Love Train" and "For the Love of Money"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Levert is the father of R&B singers Gerald Levert, who died on November 10, 2006, Sean Levert, who died on March 30, 2008 and Eddie Levert Jr., CEO of Levert Entertainment Group, a Music label headquartered in Los Angeles. The relationships between Eddie Sr. and Gerald became a subject of a book, *I Got Your Back: A Father and Son Keep It Real about Love, Fatherhood, Family, and Friendship*; and

WHEREAS, the book includes moving tributes from Eddie, Patti LaBelle, Steve Harvey and others, as well as treasured family photographs; and

WHEREAS, the final collaboration from Eddie and Gerald Levert: an intimate glimpse into their lives, their passions, and their musical legacy. But most important *I Got Your Back: A Father and Son Keep It Real about Love, Fatherhood, Family, and Friendship* gets inside the special and rare father-son bond that these two R&B legends shared. Eddie and Gerald put their hearts and souls on the line and talk about their failures, concerns, fears, and triumphs as father and son.; and

WHEREAS, with a powerful message of reconciliation for broken families, Eddie and Gerald explore the themes of fatherhood, male bonding and male-female relationships.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize many contributions of Eddie Levert 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 27th day of June, 2012 by:

Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President St. Louis City Board of Aldermen
Honorable Antonio D. French, Alderman 21st Ward

Adopted this the 29th day of June, 2012 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen