

RESOLUTION NUMBER 325

James H. Buford

WHEREAS, James H. Buford, a native St. Louisan, has served as President/CEO of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis for over 25 years, taking the position in 1985; and

WHEREAS, almost immediately upon taking the leadership role, Jim Buford began making changes that would improve the service level and capacity of the organization, by establishing the Urban League Guild and the organization's first youth auxiliary; and

WHEREAS, under the dynamic leadership of Mr. Buford, the Metropolitan St. Louis Chapter has grown to one of the strongest chapters in the country. Improving from an entity serving a few thousand people through a budget of \$2.5 million, to an organization serving over 50,000 people through a budget of \$23 million; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Buford has been a vocal advocate for social and economic justice; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Buford has provided a tremendous service to the St. Louis metropolitan region as a member on the following boards: St. Louis Community College Building Corporation, St. Louis Connectcare, Harris Stowe State University, Heat Up St. Louis, St. Louis Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Downtown St. Louis Partnership, St. Louis Science Center, Chancellor's Council of the University of Missouri-St. Louis, Forest Park Hospital, St. Louis Mundy Opera, Jobs for America's Graduates, and the Metropolitan Sewer District, to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Buford has received numerous honors and awards which include: Mentor St. Louis Award, Whitney M. Young Award from the Boy Scouts, St. Louis Gateway Classic Lifetime Achievement Award, St. Louis Community College Distinguished Alumni Award, The Missourian Award, and the Brotherhood-Sisterhood Award presented by the National Conference for Community & Justice, and a countless list of other citizenship awards; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Buford holds a B.A. in Human Services Administration from Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA. He also holds honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degrees from: Harris- Stowe State College; University of Missouri of St. Louis; Webster University and Eden Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, James H. Buford has improved the lives of countless St. Louis citizens in countless ways.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize and honor James H. Buford 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 honorees at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 9th day of March, 2012 by:

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

Adopted this the 9th day of March, 2012 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen