



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING IRISH-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS: Over the last two centuries, Irish immigrants made great contributions to our city and country, while generations of Irish American residents have enriched all aspects of our city and Nation's history; *and*

WHEREAS: When Irish immigrants first arrived in Boston during the Great Famine (*An Gorta Mor*) in the 1840s, they were not welcomed and faced many struggles, including poverty, prejudice, and discrimination in jobs and housing. In spite of the hardship and challenges, they worked hard at often unsafe and dangerous jobs; *and*

WHEREAS: As the Irish population expanded and new generations were born, Irish Americans entered into the workforce and helped build the social, economic and industrial engine of America. Many became labor leaders, teachers, firefighters, police officers, construction workers, business owners etc, and they contributed significantly to the American Labor movement, advocating for safe working conditions, fighting against racial discrimination and income inequality; *and*

WHEREAS: Today, Irish Americans continue to contribute to our city and country in business, government, politics, religion, the U.S. military, building trades, and organized labor. They also contribute immensely to our arts and culture, as well as sports. Many of America's Nobel and Pulitzer prize-winning poets and authors, award-winning musicians, actors, athletes are Irish Americans; *and*

WHEREAS: During this month, we celebrate and honor the remarkable achievements and contributions of Irish Americans. Their resiliency and perseverance, commitment to social and economic justice, strong sense of community, and proud immigrant heritage have helped shaped our city and our Nation's identity and made us a stronger people; *and*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the Boston City Council recognizes March as Irish-American Heritage Month in the City of Boston, and pays tribute to the wonderful contributions of the Irish American community.