

# City of Boston IN CITY COUNCIL

## OFFICIAL RESOLUTION OFFERED BY CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT ED FLYNN

- WHEREAS:** John Drew has served in leadership positions at the renowned antipoverty/community action organization since 1971. The Charlestown, MA native has been ABCD President/CEO since 2009; *and*
- WHEREAS:** John Drew is the founder of several national and Massachusetts-based non-profit organizations. As the Northeast region board member of the National Community Action Foundation, he has spearheaded national policy impacting low-income people and communities; *and*
- WHEREAS:** John Drew also oversaw expansion of Head Start programs, particularly early Head Start, and initiated several new youth programs, including WorkSMART, a year-round paid work and learning experience for disadvantaged youth, and YEA! Youth Engaged in Action, a summer program for low-income 13-year-olds who are too old for camp and too young for traditional summer jobs programs; *and*
- WHEREAS:** John Drew acquired significant real estate property for ABCD and initiated renovation and high technology updates to produce state-of-the-art facilities that enhanced program stability for Head Start, neighborhood programs, ABCD's two alternative high schools, Urban College and more. His efforts supported neighborhood development and strengthened non-profit programs, expanding services and opportunities for low-income residents; *and*
- WHEREAS:** John Drew's passion for the underserved stems in part from his experiences living in public housing following a back injury and, in the early days of the antipoverty movement, sending his two young children to Head Start. "Head Start turned our lives around," he said. "From day one it has been a beacon of light for struggling families."
- RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, recognizes John Drew for his contributions to his city and the community, and recognizes June 7th as "John Drew Day" in the City of Boston.

By: Edward M. Flynn  
President of the City Council

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: Edward M. Flynn

Date: \_\_\_\_\_