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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Brighton Park Neighborhood Council (BPNC) is  
3 a community-based, non-profit organization serving the  
4 Brighton Park community, a predominantly Latinx, low-income  
5 working class neighborhood on Chicago's southwest side; and

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WHEREAS, BPNC's mission is to create a safer community,  
7 improve the learning environment at public schools, preserve  
8 affordable housing, provide a voice for youth, protect  
9 immigrants' rights, promote gender equity, and end all forms  
10 of violence; and

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WHEREAS, Founded in 1997, BPNC unites individuals and  
12 neighborhood institutions to organize campaigns to obtain  
13 essential resources for a predominantly immigrant community,  
14 improve public policy, and address the root causes of poverty  
15 and inequality; and

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WHEREAS, BPNC works to address a range of community issues  
17 through school and community-based services, including  
18 school-based programs, trauma-informed counseling addressing  
19 child abuse and domestic violence, violence prevention, case  
20 management services, health and wellness, foreclosure  
21 prevention and financial literacy, and public benefits  
22 enrollment; and

1           WHEREAS, Since its inception in 1997, BPNC has worked to  
2 achieve three goals: (1) to develop and train community  
3 residents as grassroots leaders to lead campaigns for  
4 neighborhood improvement and development, (2) to develop the  
5 social service infrastructure to address the needs of the  
6 community, and (3) to build community by bringing together  
7 leaders and institutions from throughout the neighborhood; its  
8 model engages low-income and immigrant Latinx community  
9 members who are most affected by the lack of access to  
10 healthcare, public education funding inequities, immigration  
11 reform, and economic injustice; and

12           WHEREAS, BPNC works to unite local institutions, community  
13 leaders, funders, community partners, and vested stakeholders  
14 to improve the service infrastructure of the Brighton Park  
15 community; it has worked diligently to increase community  
16 partnerships and improve collaborations with local  
17 institutions and philanthropic organizations to maximize  
18 funder dollars without duplicating programs; and

19           WHEREAS, In 2012, BPNC worked with United Way Metropolitan  
20 Chicago (UWMC) to develop the Brighton Park Neighborhood  
21 Network (BPNN), which focuses its efforts on developing an  
22 infrastructure of social services within Brighton Park to  
23 support cradle-to-career opportunities for children, youth,

1 and young adults; BPNN has worked collaboratively to develop a  
2 common agenda to develop a more robust and efficient social  
3 service infrastructure and to engage institutions and  
4 community leaders in policy change campaigns in the four key  
5 areas of violence prevention and public safety, education,  
6 health, and income/economic development; through the BPNN  
7 collaborative, BPNC has coordinated resources among community  
8 service providers and other institutions to develop a pipeline  
9 of services to support student's academic and social emotional  
10 growth from 1st grade to 12th grade; and

11 WHEREAS, Over the course of its inception, BPNC has served  
12 thousands of families across Brighton Park and the southwest  
13 side of Chicago in a variety of capacities; most recently,  
14 since April 2020, BPNC has provided over \$2.5 million in  
15 direct cash assistance, food assistance, rental and mortgage  
16 assistance, and utility assistance for over 1,000 families in  
17 the community in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; over the  
18 past ten years, BPNC has registered over 8,500 people to  
19 become part of the donor registry in Illinois; BPNC has also  
20 seen hundreds of individuals become U.S. citizens through its  
21 citizenship program; BPNC continues to maintain a strong  
22 commitment to its full-service community schools program,  
23 working closely with local Chicago Public School partners to  
24 provide students and their families academic,  
25 social-emotional, and mental health support; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL  
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge support for  
3 community-based, non-profit organizations such as the Brighton  
4 Park Neighborhood Council as they strive to improve their  
5 neighborhoods; and be it further

6           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7 presented to the BPNC as a symbol of our respect and esteem.