



Legislation Text

File #: 06052, **Version:** 1

Fiscal Note

No expenditure required.

Title

Welcome and honor the visit of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, on his sixth occasion to visit the City of Madison on May 2-4, 2007, and include the appropriate placements of the Tibetan flag in recognition of His Holiness the Dalai Lama's visit.

Body

WHEREAS, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, is the spiritual and temporal leader of the Tibetan people; and

WHEREAS, since the time of his forced exile in 1959 from Tibet to India, he has devoted himself to the plight of his people and to promoting world peace, winning respect and affection of world leaders and millions of people throughout the globe; and

WHEREAS, his refusal to use violence in Tibet's struggle for freedom won him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, His Holiness has traveled extensively, sharing his consistent philosophy of peace based on compassion and personal responsibility; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress will award His Holiness the Congressional Gold Medal of Honor in recognition of His Holiness' advocacy of religious harmony, non-violence, and human rights throughout the world and for his efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Tibet issue through dialogue with the Chinese leadership; and

WHEREAS, His Holiness has visited Madison five times and performed Buddhist teachings and given Public Talks in 1979 on his First Historic Tour of North America, in 1981 to perform the Kalachakra Ceremony, in 1989 two weeks after he won the Nobel Peace Prize to dedicate the Stupa, in 1998, in 2001 for the Mind and Life Conference, and now in 2007; and

WHEREAS, His Holiness will be in the City of Madison on May 2-4, 2007 to offer teachings as requested by Ven. Geshe L. Sopa on behalf of Deer Park Buddhist Center, and he will meet with the Tibetan community and recognize their civic contributions and will return in 2008 for the North American Long Life Puja in the city of the First Kalachakra in the West; and

WHEREAS, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet offers these thoughts, "My message is the practice of compassion, love, and kindness. Compassion can be put into practice if one recognizes the fact that every human being is a member of humanity and the human family regardless of differences in religion, culture, color, and creed. Deep down there is no difference"; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Madison welcome and honor the visit of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, on his sixth occasion to visit the City of Madison on May 2-4, 2007; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that such welcome shall include the appropriate placements of the Tibetan flag in recognition of His Holiness the Dalai Lama's visit.