Legislation Text

File #: 26425, **Version:** 1

Fiscal Note
No appropriation required.
Title
Recognizing and commending Ariel H. Ford on her retirement after more than a decade of dedicated service as a city employee.
Body
WHEREAS, Ariel started with the City of Madison in February 1968, with the Personnel department before leaving to pursue a career with IBM and as a Kindergarten teacher before returning to the City of Madison on July 17, 2000, as the Investigations Supervisor with the Equal Opportunities Commission; and

WHEREAS, Ariel became the first Equal Opportunities Division Manager in the history of the Department of Civil Rights; and

WHEREAS, Ariel has devoted much of her career to serving the public through various volunteer efforts, including hosting people in Madison through Friendship Force and serving on the YWCA Board of Directors, and her work with the City of Madison to ensure that all residents have equal opportunities in employment, housing, and public accommodations, thereby creating equal opportunities for current and future residents to enjoy the city; and

WHEREAS, Ariel has worked diligently to assist the people of Madison through education and enforcement of civil rights, increasing protections for people, working with the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Equal Opportunities Commission Employment Committee, and remaining steadfast in the battle as she stands strong working with other stakeholders in dealing with Voter ID, conviction record and other civil rights issues of the 21st Century; and

WHEREAS, Ariel has used her knowledge to promote equal opportunities, inform and educate others on the history and historical events centered around civil rights and equal opportunities and dedicated her last decade of work to educating and enforcing one of the strongest equal opportunities ordinances in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Ariel has served with integrity, passion, determination and grace in her roles with the city; and

WHEREAS, Ariel's example has influenced everyone she meets and has had a profound impact on her past and current staff who she has mentored in the areas of leadership, team building, civil rights issues and women's issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the residents of the City of Madison, through the Mayor and Common Council, hereby express their deepest appreciation to Ariel Ford for her significant contributions to shaping equal opportunities and recognize that the City would be lucky to have more

people with her integrity, drive and commitment, and that the Mayor and Common Council wish her a fantastic retirement and safe travels on her many adventures.

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