

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-R-76**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR THE INDUCTION OF UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN FEDERICA WILSON INTO THE NORTH MIAMI CITIZEN'S HALL OF FAME; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND ALL OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson proudly represents Florida's 24th Congressional District which is one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse districts in the nation and includes parts of northwest Miami-Dade, Miami-Dade Coastal Communities, and southern Broward counties; and

**WHEREAS**, recognizing her record of service and productivity, in 2010, voters overwhelmingly elected her to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives; and

**WHEREAS**, as a former educator, elementary school principal, community leader, school board member, state legislator, and founder of the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project, Congresswoman Wilson earned a reputation as a "Voice for the Voiceless."; and

**WHEREAS**, her tenure in Congress, now in its seventh term, has also been marked by her signature spirit of unrelenting advocacy on behalf of the less fortunate; and

**WHEREAS**, after earning a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education from Fisk University and a Master of Science degree in elementary education from the University of Miami, Congresswoman Wilson worked as a teacher and assistant educational coordinator for the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Head Start program' and

**WHEREAS**, she quickly rose to become principal of Skyway Elementary School, which was recognized as one of the best schools in America in President George H. W. Bush's "America 2000" plan to upgrade national education standards; and

**WHEREAS**, following her time at Skyway Elementary School, Congresswoman Wilson successfully campaigned for a seat on the Miami-Dade County School Board in 1992; and

**WHEREAS**, her first legislative achievement was the establishment of the 500 Role Models of Excellence Project as a district-sanctioned innovative mentoring program was inspired

by the extraordinary impact of positive male influence on the attitudes and performance of the boys at Skyway Elementary during her tenure as principal; and

**WHEREAS**, now known as the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project, the program has flourished and earned much-deserved national acclaim; and

**WHEREAS**, as the founder of the Florida Ports Caucus, she successfully secured funding for major projects, generating thousands of jobs in her district and has also played a key role in human rights advocacy, notably leading the #BringBackOurGirls campaign to fight for the safe return of the 219 Nigerian schoolgirls abducted by Boko Haram and has been instrumental in honoring American contributions and crafting Florida's African American history curriculum.; and

**WHEREAS**, with a career spanning both state and federal levels, Wilson has consistently worked to improve education, advocate for marginalized communities, and champion civil rights causes; and

**WHEREAS**, since being in Congress, she successfully led the effort to pass a bill, signed into law, to create the U.S. Commission on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys; and

**WHEREAS**, as the highest-ranking Democrat on the U.S. Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development, she has championed efforts to cancel student loans and proposed her own bill, the LOAN Act, to address the student loan crisis and has also championed efforts to raise teacher salaries, secure reproductive freedom, create jobs, and uplift Black men and boys; and

**WHEREAS**, born in Miami, Congresswoman Wilson learned the value of public service and community activism from her parents; and

**WHEREAS**, the late Beulah Finley Smith and the late Thirlee Smith, Sr., were small business owners and civil rights activists, and her brother, the late Thirlee Smith, Jr., was the first full-time African American reporter at the *Miami Herald* and a long-time educator for Miami-Dade County Public Schools, who was responsible for implementing African-American history into the district's curriculum; and

**WHEREAS**, Congresswoman Wilson is the proud mother of three children: Nicole, LaKesha, and Paul – and has five beautiful grandchildren.

**WHEREAS**, Congresswoman Wilson successfully championed for North Miami's Museum of Contemporary Art ("MOCA") to receive a \$3 million grant and also a \$850K grant for the NoMi Senior Center; and

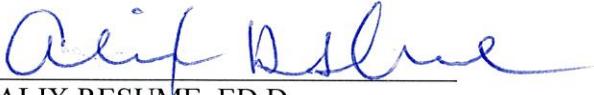
**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council find that Congresswoman Wilson substantially contributed to the well-being and advancement of the City of North Miami and should be honored with induction into the Citizen's Hall of Fame.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA:**

**Section 1. Induction into Hall of Fame.** The Mayor and City Council hereby induct United States Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson into the Citizen's Hall of Fame.

**Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by a 5 - 0 vote of the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Miami, Florida, this 28th day of May, 2024.

  
ALIX RESUME, ED.D.  
MAYOR

ATTEST :

  
VANESSA JOSEPH, ESQ.  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

  
JEFF P. H. CAZEAU, ESQ.  
CITY ATTORNEY

SPONSORED BY: MAYOR ALIX DESULME

CO-SPONSORED BY: VICE-MAYOR MARY ESTIMÉ-IRVIN & COUNCILMAN PIERRE  
FRANTZ CHARLES

Moved by: Desulme

Seconded by: Charles

**Vote:**

Mayor Alix Desulme, Ed.D.

X (Yes) \_\_\_\_\_ (No)

Vice-Mayor Mary Estimé-Irvin

X (Yes) \_\_\_\_\_ (No)

Councilman Scott Galvin

X (Yes) \_\_\_\_\_ (No)

Councilwoman Kassandra Timothe, MPA

X (Yes) \_\_\_\_\_ (No)

Councilman Pierre Frantz Charles, M.Ed.

X (Yes) \_\_\_\_\_ (No)