

IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COMMISSION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

In Recognition and Celebration of Ben's Chili Bowl on its 65th Anniversary

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WHEREAS, For sixty-five years, Ben's Chili Bowl has been an integral part of the District of Columbia's rich tapestry, serving not only as a culinary institution, but also as a beacon of cultural heritage and unity;

WHEREAS, The side of Ben's Chili Bowl has transformed into a canvas of public art for the community, echoing the narratives of community, which has long resided in the heart of the city;

WHEREAS, The Commission on the Arts and Humanities has been proud to support and finance artwork on the building, further emphasizing its role as an art-centric hub within the District;

WHEREAS, Ben's Chili Bowl boasts a striking panda sculpture at its forefront, generously provided by the Commission on the Arts and Humanities, symbolizing the pandas beloved by our nation and housed at the National Zoo;

WHEREAS, Countless artists have frequented Ben's Chili Bowl, using its vibrant space as a meeting place, a nexus for ideas, and a refuge for creativity;

WHEREAS, Ben's Chili Bowl stood unyielding during the turbulent DC riots in 1968, emerging as a testament to resilience, hope, and the indomitable spirit of the Ali family and District residents:

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,*

That the Commission on the Arts and Humanities hereby commends and celebrates Ben's Chili Bowl on the occasion of its 65th Anniversary, recognizing its immense contributions to the arts, culture, and community of the District of Columbia.