

# A resolution

adopted by *The City Council*  
of the *City of Chicago, Illinois*



Presented by ALDERMAN RICHARD F. MELL on MARCH 1, 2006

**Whereas**, Our nation's first President, George Washington, said, "My first wish is to see this plague of mankind - war - banished from the earth"; and

**WHEREAS**, George Washington also said, "The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportionate as to how they perceive the veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their country"; and

**WHEREAS**, One of Illinois' great sons, Adlai Stevenson, said, "Making peace is harder than making war"; and

**WHEREAS**, When the United States military is called upon to send forces into harm's way, the sons and daughters of Chicago and Illinois have answered that call; and

**WHEREAS**, The number of Veterans receiving care has increased 88% and medical inflation has increased 92%; and

**WHEREAS**, Funding for the Veterans Administration continues to fall far short of the need; and

**WHEREAS**, The increase in medical care funding for veterans is less than \$80 million; and

**WHEREAS**, That is an increase of less than one-half of 1% for Veterans Health Care at a time of war; and

**WHEREAS**, This present Administration decided to fund this war and all of its implications through supplemental requests, yet the President's Budget does not provide even one dollar for a very important cost of war: the care of our Heroes when they finally return home; and



**WHEREAS**, History has shown that many of the debilitating health effects of military conflict, may take years before they "show" themselves, and may even manifest themselves after the current limit for combat-related health care claims; and

**WHEREAS**, With a new generation of combat veterans deployed around the world, the federal government must meet its obligations to our veterans; and

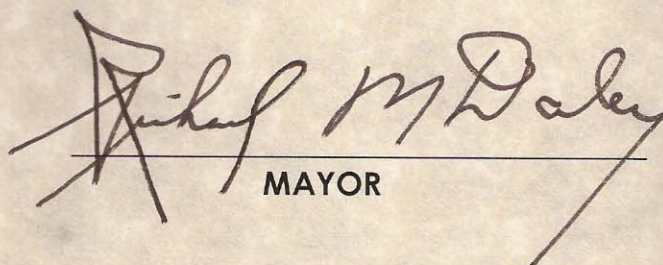
**WHEREAS**, When these brave men and women from all over the United States, particularly Illinois and Chicago signed up to serve our country, we, the citizens of the United States agreed to take care of them; and

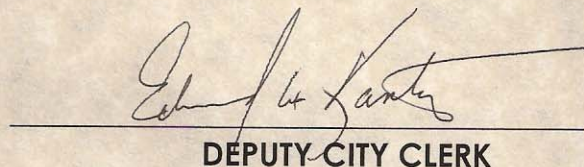
**WHEREAS**, The citizens of the United States, through their elected representatives, should live up to their moral obligation to provide their heroic veterans with the level of health care funding that has been promised time and time again; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled here this first day of March, 2006, do hereby, on behalf of all our citizens, urge the President and the United States Congress to pass legislation and budgetary measures to increase funding of veterans' benefits so as to meet our moral obligation to the brave men and women of the United States military, past, present and future; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the President and to members of the United States Congress.



  
MAYOR

  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK