A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To recognize and honor Chef Marianne Ali for her many contributions to the District of Columbia through her twenty years of service at DC Central Kitchen and its Culinary Job Training program.

Whereas, Chef Marianne Ali has spent twenty years tirelessly fighting to help District residents overcome homelessness, addiction, incarceration, trauma, and chronic joblessness;

Whereas, Chef Ali graduated from L’Academie de Cuisine in Gaithersburg, Maryland, before joining DC Central Kitchen in 1997 and becoming a culinary instructor in the Culinary Job Training program;

Whereas, upon being named the Director of the Culinary Job Training program, Chef Ali developed a robust internship component that connected DC Central Kitchen students with hands-on guidance from the District’s chef community;

Whereas, in the face of the 2008 recession, Chef Ali led DC Central Kitchen’s strategic realignment toward a focus on training and empowering returning citizens, ultimately building a model that reduces recidivism by 90% versus the national average and saves taxpayers $2 million in incarceration costs each year;

Whereas, Chef Ali’s leadership, vision, and dedication have been honored with membership in Les Dames D’Escoffier, the Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington’s Culinary Arts Visionary Award, the Catalyst Kitchens network’s Catalyst for Change Award, and the White House’s Champion of Change Award, which was presented by Attorney General Eric Holder; and

Whereas, under her direction, DC Central Kitchen has produced 1,500 culinary graduates, equipping them with the culinary training, self-empowerment, and industry connections they needed to embark on lasting careers and change their lives.
Resolved, by the Council of the District of Columbia, that this resolution may be cited as the “Chef Marianne Ali Recognition Resolution of 2017.”

Sec. 2. The Council honors Chef Marianne Ali for her twenty years of service at DC Central Kitchen and its Culinary Job Training program; and thanks her for her contributions to the District of Columbia, its workers, and its returning citizens.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.