National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Week 2009
Proclamation

_Hear Our Voice:_ Residents in Long-Term Care Facilities Speak Out About Residents’ Rights

_Whereas,_ there are more than 1.6 million individuals living in 16,000 nursing homes; and 1 million individuals living in 50,000 board and care/assisted living facilities in the U.S.; and

_Whereas,_ the federal Nursing Home Reform Act of 1987 guarantees residents their individual rights in order to promote and maintain their dignity and autonomy; and

_Whereas,_ all residents should be aware of their rights so they may be empowered to live with dignity and self-determination; and

_Whereas,_ we wish to honor and celebrate these citizens, to recognize their rich individuality, and to reaffirm their rights as community members and citizens, including the right to have a say in their care; and

_Whereas,_ individuals and groups across the country will be celebrating Residents’ Rights Week with the theme—“Hear Our Voice: Residents in Long-Term Care Facilities Speak Out About Residents’ Residents”—to emphasize the importance of affirming these rights through facility practices, public policy and resident-centered decision-making that impacts quality of care and quality of life.

_Now, therefore, I,_ _______________________, Mayor of the City of _____________, do hereby proclaim October 4 – 10, 2009 as National Long-Term Care Residents’ Rights Week, in the City of _________________, and encourage all citizens to join me in these important observances.

Signed this _____ day of ________ 2009

_______________________________, Mayor