



# The City of Minneapolis

## A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

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### **Recognizing World Down Syndrome Day**

**Whereas**, Down Syndrome is a congenital disorder caused by having an extra 21<sup>st</sup> chromosome; and

**Whereas**, The date for World Down Syndrome Day being the 21<sup>st</sup> day of the 3<sup>rd</sup> month was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the 21<sup>st</sup> chromosome which causes Down Syndrome; and

**Whereas**, One in every 691 babies in the United States is born with Down Syndrome, making Down Syndrome the most common genetic condition; and

**Whereas**, Approximately 400,000 Americans have Down Syndrome and about 6,000 babies with Down Syndrome are born in the United States each year; and

**Whereas**, While research and early intervention have resulted in dramatic improvements in the life span and potential of those who are affected, more research is needed into diseases and illnesses that are more prevalent among people who have Down Syndrome; and

**Whereas**, While possessing a wide range of abilities, people with Down Syndrome are active participants in educational, occupational, social and recreational circles of our communities; and

**Whereas**, Individuals living with Down Syndrome should have equal opportunity to achieve their desired goals of self-fulfillment, be valued for their achievements, be included in their community and encouraged to reach their full potential; and

**Whereas**, One of the victims of the 35W Bridge collapse on August 1, 2007, Richard Chit, had the attribute of Down Syndrome; and

**Whereas**, Each year on March 21<sup>st</sup>, buildings and bridges, including the Empire State Building in New York City, are lit in blue and yellow; and

**Now, Therefore, be it Resolved by the City Council of the City of Minneapolis:**

That the City Council declares the 21<sup>st</sup> Day of March, 2015, to be Down Syndrome Awareness Day in the City of Minneapolis and that the 35W Bridge be lit in blue and yellow on this day.

Passed March 20, 2015