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2 A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION  
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6 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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11 To recognize December 10, 2008, as “Washington, DC Human Rights Day” in the  
12 District of Columbia.

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14 WHEREAS, December 10, 2008, marks the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal  
15 Declaration of Human Rights;

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17 WHEREAS, The United Nations passed resolution A/RES/62/171 proclaiming  
18 the year commencing on December 10, 2008 the international Year of Human Rights  
19 Learning;

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21 WHEREAS, This is an opportunity to call attention to human rights violations  
22 around the world and to continue to promote the importance of educating our citizens  
23 about human rights;

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25 WHEREAS, The District of Columbia Public Schools has partnered with the  
26 American Friends Service Committee to create courses that teach our students about  
27 human rights issues;

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29 WHEREAS, On this day, citizens of the nation’s capital, led by individuals and  
30 organizations, affirm their commitment to human rights by declaring Washington, DC, a  
31 Human Rights City;

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33 WHEREAS, Washington, DC being a Human Rights City makes it a model for  
34 communities around the world to witness practical ways the human rights framework can  
35 make every citizen a partner of sustainable change;

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37 WHEREAS, A Human Rights City is one whose residents and local authorities,  
38 through on-going discussions and creative exchanges of ideas, come to understand that  
39 human rights, when widely known as a way of life, assist in identifying the issues and  
40 informs the actions in our DC communities, for meaningful, positive economic and social  
41 change;

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43 WHEREAS, Developing Human Rights Cities is an attempt to build infrastructure  
44 for conflict prevention, human security, sustainable development, and create a place for  
45 active civic engagement at the local, national, and global level;

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1           WHEREAS, Washington, DC will be declared the first Human Rights City in the  
2 United States;

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4           WHEREAS, As a Human Rights City, Washington, DC will be joining other  
5 human rights cities around the world in working to provide leadership and advocacy to  
6 secure, protect, and promote human rights for all people;

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8           RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that  
9 this resolution may be cited as the “Washington, DC Human Rights Day Recognition  
10 Resolution of 2008.”

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12           Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes December 10, 2008 as  
13 “Washington, DC Human Rights Day.”

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

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