



**PROCLAMATION NO. 21-0115  
RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. HERMAN A. MOTZ**

**WHEREAS**, Herman A. Motz was born on September 8, 1929 in Cincinnati, met his wife of 64 years, Patricia, on a blind date while he was stationed at Fort Carson during his service in the U.S. Army, a college athlete himself, and earning a doctorate in education, Dr. Motz was a true renaissance man, scholar, gentleman, athlete, teacher and leader; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Motz taught English, Science and Latin classes in Denver Public Schools for 35 years, first at Cole Junior High and then at Thomas Jefferson High School; and

**WHEREAS**, In addition to teaching, Dr. Motz coached track and football for 19 years, during which he led the TJ Spartans to the football playoffs 12 times, the state semi-finals 6 times, 9 league championships, and two state championships (1980 and 1989), in addition to his impressive .813 win percentage in football he is also the last coach to win a state football championship for a Denver Public School; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Motz's coaching abilities garnered him multiple coach of the year awards, five Hall of Fame inductions: Colorado High School Coaches Association, Denver Public Schools Coaches, National High School Athletic Coaches Association, Colorado High School Athletic Association and Thomas Jefferson High School

**WHEREAS**, in 2011, thousands of community members came together to celebrate Thomas Jefferson High School's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and to dedicate the athletic field to Coach Herman Motz; and

**WHEREAS**, after retiring in 1992 Dr. Motz became a master gardener, volunteered for the Denver Botanic Gardens, worked as a statistician for Denver Public Schools, and continued his lifelong pursuits of writing poetry and songs, painting, drawing, signing, playing guitar and being drawn to scientific and inventive endeavors; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Motz positively impacted the lives of thousands of young people who have grown up to also positively impact our world. His legacy will continue through those whose lives he touched.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

**Section 1.** That the Denver City Council honors the exemplary service of Herman A. Motz to Denver Public Schools, his students, athletes and the residents of the City and County of Denver.

**Section 2.** That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to the family of Herman A. Motz.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL February 1, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_ COUNCIL PRESIDENT