



**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 50th 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