

WHEREAS, promoting safe and healthy communities in Nevada involves supporting initiatives that raise awareness about disabilities and harmful conditions, as well as educational opportunities regarding treatment for, prevention of, and research into those conditions; and

WHEREAS, Down syndrome is a genetic condition that occurs in approximately one in every 800 births; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 400,000 people of various ethnic, religious, and socioeconomic groups with Down syndrome living in the United States; and

WHEREAS, life expectancy for people with Down syndrome has increased from 25 years of age in 1983 to 60 years of age and older today; and

WHEREAS, early intervention, appropriate speech, physical and occupational therapies, vocational training, and Postsecondary Education opportunities enable people with Down syndrome to prepare for gainful employment and independent living; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sparks joins communities across the nation recognizing March 21, 2017 as the 12th Anniversary of World Down Syndrome Day, with continued commitment to celebrating and recognizing the talents, potential, contributions, and achievements of those living with Down syndrome;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GENO R. MARTINI, Mayor of the City of Sparks, Nevada, do hereby proclaim March 21, 2017 as:

"WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Sparks, Nevada to be affixed this 14TH day of December 2016.

GENO R. MARTINI, Mayor

ATTEST:

TERESA GARDNER, City Clerk

