



City of Saint Paul

City Hall and Court House
15 West Kellogg Boulevard
Phone: 651-266-8560

Legislation Text

File #: RES 17-1228, **Version:** 1

Declaring August 25, 2017 as Hamline Church Dining Hall Day in the City of Saint Paul.

WHEREAS, in 1897, a small group of women from the Hamline Methodist Episcopal Church Ladies Aid Society sold sandwiches and cold drinks at the Minnesota State Fair, to raise money for the Midway neighborhood church; and

WHEREAS, by the early 20th century the dining hall was in its own white wooden building with a cupola on top, near the Hippodrome/Coliseum; and

WHEREAS, in early-years women and children volunteers met at the church and rode to the fair in church member Bert Wallace's horse-drawn wagon; and

WHEREAS, in the wake of the Christmastime 1925 fire which destroyed the church, church women made a \$15,000 pledge toward a new church building and used dining hall proceeds to pay the pledge; and

WHEREAS, in the 1930s dining hall diners paid 35 cents for a full meal at the diner -- meat loaf or ham loaf, boiled potatoes, coleslaw, beet pickles, pie, ice cream and beverage -- with second helpings for free; and

WHEREAS, the dining hall made it through site moves, the Great Depression, World War II and food rationing, the statewide polio epidemic and many other local, national and worldwide events; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, so many church volunteers had been given the state fair's 50-year volunteer award, the dining hall itself was given the award; and

WHEREAS, the dining hall's countless volunteers have served up food and fellowship to countless guests who enjoy Hamline ham loaf and Hamline egger breakfast sandwiches; and

WHEREAS, Hamline Dining Hall celebrates 120 years at the Minnesota State Fair as the fair's longest vendor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Saint Paul City Council declares Friday, August 25, 2017 as Hamline Church Dining Hall Day in the City of Saint Paul.