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Proclamation - Co-Op Month - October 2010

WHEREAS, Cooperatives are a unique form of collaborative business where members own, use, and run their own businesses not for profit, but for the collective good of members; and

WHEREAS, Cooperative businesses are operated according to the Rochdale Principles, which include: Voluntary and open membership; Democratic member control; Members' economic participation; Autonomy and independence; Education, training and information; and Concern for community; and

WHEREAS, There are 48,000 cooperative businesses in the United States, serving their 120 million members; and

WHEREAS, There are numerous cooperative businesses throughout Ann Arbor, including, but not limited to The Inter-Cooperative Council of the University of Michigan, Forest Hills Cooperative Housing, Arrowwood Hills Cooperative Housing, Colonial Square Cooperative; Pinelake Village Cooperative; Ann Arbor Cooperative Nursery, Stone School Cooperative Nursery, First United Methodist Cooperative Nursery; University of Michigan Credit Union, Huron River Area Credit Union; and the People's Food Co-op; and

WHEREAS, October is Co-op Month, celebrated by co-ops throughout the United States as a time to honor the service to their members and their communities.

NOW THEREFORE, I, John Hieftje, Mayor of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on behalf of the City Council and citizens of Ann Arbor, do hereby officially honor the cooperative businesses that serve the Ann Arbor community, and encourage city residents to explore the benefits available through cooperative businesses by proclaiming the month of October as "Co-op Month" in the City of Ann Arbor.

I hereby set my hand and seal

This 4th day of October, 2010

John Hieftje, Mayor