

WHEREAS, Jim Boren began his career with the Fresno Bee while studying journalism at California State University, Fresno before becoming the Bee's political reporter from 1980-1995, editorial page editor from 1995-2012, and finally executive editor and senior vice president from 2012-2018. After 48 years of invaluable service to the Bee, Jim Boren has decided to retire; and

WHEREAS, under the steady and reliable hand of Jim Boren the Bee's already high standards for integrity and excellence in journalism were raised, as evidenced by the Bee winning a stunning eight first-place awards at the 2017 Better Newspapers Contest sponsored by the California Newspaper Publishers Association, including Best Investigative Reporting, Best Coverage of Education, and Best Video Journalism; and

WHEREAS, Jim Boren understood more than any other the great responsibility civil society bestows upon the Fourth Estate, as every piece of his body of work is a testament to his dedication to the pursuit of truth, factual reporting, community-focused stories, and diligent attention to detail; and

WHEREAS, Jim Boren's kind and generous heart is well-known by anyone who has had the pleasure of interacting with Jim professionally or personally. Jim was instrumental in making Kids Day, an annual fundraising event held by Valley Children's Hospital, into the great success it is today; and

WHEREAS, it is impossible to quantify the amount of social change Jim Boren has brought about in the City of Fresno through his work with the Bee, as Jim's commitment to holding our public institutions accountable is of vital importance in the great war against injustices in our world; and

WHEREAS, Jim Boren may be leaving the Fresno Bee, his presence will not soon dissipate. Future aspiring journalists and editors would be well-advised to walk in the footsteps of Jim Boren, and commit themselves wholeheartedly to the same ideals he embodied while with the Bee.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, Mayor Lee Brand and Councilmember Paul Caprioglio do hereby proclaim Thursday, March 1, 2018 to be:

“Jim Boren Day”

in the City of Fresno.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and affixed the seal of the City of Fresno, California, this 1st day of March 2018.

LEE BRAND, Honorable Mayor

PAUL CAPRIOGLIO, Councilmember District 4