



# City of Columbus

Office of City Clerk  
90 West Broad Street  
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columbuscitycouncil.org

## Legislation Text

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To recognize and celebrate the 75th anniversary of Jesse Owens' triumph at the 1936 Summer Olympics, and to encourage the public to attend The Ohio State University's anniversary celebration events from April 21st-24th.

**WHEREAS**, Jesse Owens was born James Cleveland Owens in Oakville, Alabama, on September 12, 1913; and

**WHEREAS**, Jesse was raised in Cleveland, Ohio, and would go on to attend The Ohio State University, where he set several track and field world records and earned the nickname "The Buckeye Bullet"; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1936, Owens won an unprecedented four gold medals at the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin, a stunning achievement that earned him worldwide acclaim and thoroughly discredited the master race ideology of the Nazi regime; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout his life, Jesse Owens served as an international goodwill ambassador and civil rights advocate who worked tirelessly to help young people gain access to a quality education; and

**WHEREAS**, Owens received our nation's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, from President Gerald Ford, and later was presented a Living Legend Award by President Jimmy Carter and a posthumous Congressional Gold Medal from President George H. W. Bush; and

**WHEREAS**, The Ohio State University will lead the celebration of Jesse's life and legacy on the 75th anniversary of his Olympic triumph, April 21st-24th, with a variety of events to engage the campus, alumni, and central Ohio communities; and

**WHEREAS**, funds raised from the 75th anniversary celebrations will contribute to The Ohio State University's Ruth & Jesse Owens Scholars Program, which supports the educational pursuits of talented students, as well as the men's and women's track and field programs; now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:**

That we recognize and celebrate the 75th anniversary of Jesse Owens' triumph at the 1936 Summer Olympics, and encourage the public to attend The Ohio State University's anniversary celebration events from April 21st-24th.