



City of Chicago



R2014-209

Office of the City Clerk

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Meeting Date: 4/2/2014

Sponsor(s): Reboyras (30)
Burke (14)

Type: Resolution

Title: Call on U.S. government to stand in solidarity with people of Venezuela as they protest for democracy, human rights and freedom of speech

Committee(s) Assignment: Committee on Human Relations

City Council
April 5, 2014

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Chicago is a city of immigrants and home to people of all ethnic and cultural backgrounds; and,

WHEREAS, On July 5, 1811, the República Bolivariana de Venezuela declared their Independence in the Venezuelan Declaration of Independence; and,

WHEREAS, In early 2014, a series of student protests, political demonstrations, and civil unrest occurred throughout Venezuela. The peaceful protests erupted largely as a result of the high levels of criminal violence, inflation, and chronic scarcity of basic goods; and,

WHEREAS, Protests against crime began in January of 2014, after actress and former Miss Venezuela Monica Spear and her husband were killed on January 6, 2014 during a roadside robbery. Another act of crime occurred in February, where the attempted rape of a young student on a university campus in San Cristobal led to protests from students over crime; and,

WHEREAS, The countless and massive student demonstrations began in cities such as Caracas, Merida, and Tachira were subject to police aggression; and,

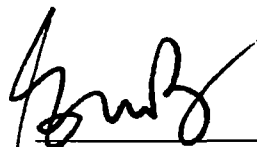
WHEREAS, As a result of the civilian and student protests, more than 39 people are killed, 1,500 are imprisoned, more than 65 proven violations of human rights have occurred, and two opposition majors of the cities of San Cristobal and San Diego, and opposition leader former mayor of Chacao, Leopoldo Lopez have been unjustly arrested; and now therefore, ,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago gathered here this 2nd day of April in 2014, do hereby call on the government of the United States to stand in solidarity with the people of Venezuela as they protest peacefully for democracy, human rights and freedom of speech by supporting them in this time of crisis through all diplomatic, technical and non-military means available: and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to The Consulate of Venezuela, as a sign of our support.



Ariel E. Reboyras
Alderman, 30th Ward



Edward M. Burke
Alderman, 14th Ward