



Office of the Chicago City
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City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 1/18/2012

Sponsor(s): Burke, Edward M. (14)
Thomas, Latasha R. (17)

Type: Resolution

Title: Call upon delegation of United States House of
Representatives and United States Senators from Illinois to
facilitate passage of Fix America's Schools Today (FAST)
Act

Committee(s) Assignment: Committee on Education and Child Development

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in September of 2011 Senator Sherrod Brown of Ohio and Representative Rosa DeLauro of Connecticut introduced legislation to modernize America's schools, improve the quality of education, help schools to save money through energy efficiency upgrades, and create jobs; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Fix America's Schools Today (FAST) Act, also known as S. 1597 and H.R. 2948, is to put children into safe, productive learning environments while creating jobs; and

WHEREAS, the FAST Act is a national infrastructure project designed to improve the quality of public schools while putting hundreds of thousands of people back to work; and

WHEREAS, the average U.S. public school building is more than 40 years old, many of which need maintenance and repair work in the amount of at least \$270 billion; and

WHEREAS, the current condition of public school infrastructure earns a "D" letter grade according to the American Society of Civil Engineers; and

WHEREAS, the FAST Act would invest \$50 billion in America's most needy schools; and

WHEREAS, Chicago Public Schools (CPS) would be allocated approximately \$609 million to improve and upgrade schools throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, approximately 25 million Americans are unemployed or underemployed; and

WHEREAS, for every \$1 billion invested in school construction, an estimated 10,000 jobs will be created; and

WHEREAS, the legislation includes a Davis-Bacon Act provision to ensure the jobs created for construction workers, building technicians, boiler repairmen, electrical workers, roofers, plumbers, glaziers, painters, plasterers, laborers, and tile setters are good paying American jobs; and

WHEREAS, the legislation also contains a Buy American Act provision to ensure a preference for American goods in government purchases; and

WHEREAS, each of the 100 largest high-need school districts will receive FAST Act funds within 30 days of enactment; and

WHEREAS, the passage of the Fix America's Schools Today Act will modernize America's schools, improve the learning environment for our children and put people to work in labor-intensive jobs; NOW, THEREFORE;

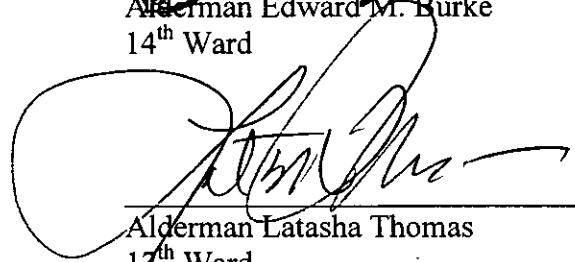
Committee on Education and Child Development

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council do hereby urge the Chicago delegation of the United States House of Representatives, as well as the United States Senators from Illinois, Senator Richard J. Durbin and Senator Mark S. Kirk, to facilitate the swift passage of the FAST Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Chicago delegation of the United States House of Representatives, as well as to the United States Senators from Illinois, Senator Richard J. Durbin and Senator Mark S. Kirk.



Alderman Edward M. Burke
14th Ward



Alderman Latasha Thomas
17th Ward