



# Office of Chicago City Clerk



Or2011-601

Office of the City Clerk

## City Council Document Tracking Sheet

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>6/8/2011</b>
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	Burke, Edward (14) O'Connor, Patrick (40)
<b>Type:</b>	Order
<b>Title:</b>	Call for implementation of random drug screening program for City employees and elected officials
<b>Committee(s) Assignment:</b>	Committee on Workforce Development and Audit

## ORDER

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chicago is a home rule unit of government pursuant to the 1970 Illinois Constitution, Article VII, Section 6 (a); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to its home rule power, the City of Chicago may exercise any power and perform any function relating to its government and affairs including the power to regulate for the protection of the public health, safety, morals, and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chicago Housing Authority has proposed a policy to drug test Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) residents and applicants for housing; and

**WHEREAS**, this drug testing would apply to all individuals over 18 years of age including senior citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Florida recently enacted new rules wherein welfare recipients and new state government hires are required to submit to drug tests; and

**WHEREAS**, there has been a national movement to require all welfare recipients to participate in drug screenings in order to obtain their benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, typically, drug testing identifies the presence of alcohol and illegal drugs including cannabis (marijuana and hashish), cocaine, opiates (codeine, morphine and heroin) phencyclidine and amphetamines; and

**WHEREAS**, according to a National Institute on Drug Abuse study, drug and alcohol abusers are five times more likely to file a Workers' Compensation Claim; and

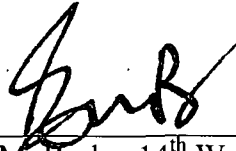
**WHEREAS**, a similar study from the American Council for Drug Education shows that drug and alcohol abusers are 10 times more likely to miss work; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chicago seeks to promote the hiring of a drug free workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, random drug testing helps to protect City residents from unnecessary risks of personal harm and inefficient use of their tax payer dollars; **NOW THEREFORE**

**BE IT ORDERED**, that the City Council of the City of Chicago hereby directs the Commissioner of the Department of Human Resources to develop and implement a random drug screening program for all City employees; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that the elected officials of the City of Chicago subject themselves to a similar random drug screening program as a sign of solidarity with City employees.



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Alderman Edward M. Burke, 14<sup>th</sup> Ward

