



R2010-1302

# City of Chicago

Office of the City Clerk

Tracking Sheet



<b>Meeting Date:</b>	11/10/2010
<b>Status:</b>	Introduced
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	Schulter, Eugene And Others
<b>Type:</b>	Resolution
<b>Title:</b>	Encouraging creation of quality jobs and responsible business practices in retail grocery sector
<b>Committee(s) Assignment:</b>	Committee on License and Consumer Protection

*License*

## A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, over 600,000 Chicago residents live in food deserts, or neighborhoods where mainstream grocery stores are scarce; and

WHEREAS, to address the needs of food disparity and unemployment in underserved communities, the City of Chicago established the Chicago Development Fund in July of 2005 to provide capital for qualifying projects and businesses in low-income areas to broaden retail access in underserved areas; and

WHEREAS, efforts have been made to address such disparities by the City of Chicago, however, many communities are still underserved and are without access to quality jobs and access to consumer goods; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago City Council has a commitment to simultaneously support policies that protect and preserve the rights of working men and women to organize in order to achieve better working conditions and bargain for living wages and benefits, specifically in the retail sector; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2010 study published by the Center for Economic and Policy Research, unionized employees earn 15 percent more in hourly wages and have a 19-percentage-point increase in the likelihood of having employer-provided health insurance, and a 24-percentage-point increase in the likelihood of having employer-sponsored retirement plans; and

WHEREAS, the retail industry benefits from better customer service when employees earn competitive wages, affordable benefits and guaranteed hours that can be afforded through a union contract.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor's Office and Chicago City Council make a renewed commitment to encourage the creation of quality jobs and responsible business practices in the retail grocery sector throughout the City of Chicago, specifically those in underserved areas; and be it further

RESOLVED that the City of Chicago's Department of Community Development, assess the effectiveness of current programs aimed to broaden retail access, like the Chicago Development Fund, and be it further

RESOLVED that the City encourage and develop further incentives for regional, locally-owned, and independent businesses who 1) Do business in underserved areas 2) Pay a living wage 3) Recognize their employees' right to choose union representation and 4) Deliver sustainable community and environmental business practices in the neighborhoods they serve; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Department of Community Development develop a task force made up of business, labor and officials from the Department of Community Development to ensure the City pursues a well-balanced approach to retail development throughout the City that does not come at the expense of decency and fairness in the workplace.

Gene Schuller

Alderman Gene Schuller, 47<sup>th</sup> Ward

Joseph A. Moore 49

Sharon Bruce Duce 24<sup>th</sup>

John Thompson 16<sup>th</sup>

John J. Jones 45

Marquetta Laurio 39

Laura Mijet 37

Ranika Kati 25

Mary Ann Smith 48

John Douglas 15

Pat Mc

13.

John 43<sup>rd</sup>

John 38

Virginia A. Regan

John C. Dees 36<sup>th</sup>

35<sup>th</sup>

Carrie M. Austin

Scott Waguespack

Ruth 7<sup>th</sup>

Walter 27<sup>th</sup>

Robert 25

33

Pat Lowell, 3<sup>rd</sup>

Robert J. Frank 59<sup>th</sup> Ward

Joseph Hamilton 5<sup>th</sup>

Frederick H. Dyle 6<sup>th</sup>

Michael A. Jam 8<sup>th</sup>

John A. Pope 10<sup>th</sup>

James A. Balcer 11

Earl Alvin 13

Edward 14

John 44

26

26

(B) names