



City of Chicago



R2018-239

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:

2/28/2018

Sponsor(s):

Ramirez-Rosa (35)
Sadlowski Garza (10)
King (4)
Hairston (5)
Sawyer (6)
Foulkes (16)
Moore (17)
Munoz (22)
Taliaferro (29)
Waguespack (32)
Arena (45)
Beale (9)
Sposato (38)
Laurino (39)
Ervin (28)
Reboyas (30)
Hopkins (2)
Dowell (3)
Burke (14)
Silverstein (50)
O'Connor (40)
Osterman (48)
Smith (43)
Moore (49)
Reilly (42)
Quinn (13)
Cochran (20)
Valencia (Clerk)
Moreno (1)
Villegas (36)
Solis (25)
Mitts (37)
Pawar (47)
Zalewski (23)
Thompson (11)
Napolitano (41)
Curtis (18)
Cappleman (46)
Lopez (15)
Scott, Jr. (24)
Cardenas (12)
Maldonado (26)

O'Shea (19)
Harris (8)
Brookins (21)
Burnett (27)
Mell (33)
Austin (34)
Santiago (31)
Tunney (44)
Resolution

Type:

Title:

Expression of support for city employees and other public service workers to unionize

Committee(s) Assignment:

February 28, 2018

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it is our belief that all families should have the means to thrive in safe and healthy communities; and

WHEREAS, the working people who make our city run ought to have good jobs that can support families; and

WHEREAS, over the last forty years, working people have become more productive than ever,¹ yet real wages are declining and CEOs make more than ever before: 347 times more than the average person;² and

WHEREAS, 50 years ago, Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, where he marched and rallied in support of city sanitation workers on strike to demand their dignity, their humanity, and their union be recognized; and

WHEREAS, those Memphis sanitation workers and Dr. King carried signs proclaiming “I AM A MAN” and struggled for basic freedoms: the freedom from discrimination, the freedom from degrading work conditions, the freedom to come together in strong unions to improve their place of work; and

WHEREAS, still today, people across the country and in our city struggle for those same basic freedoms and a high quality of life for their families; and

WHEREAS, being able to come together in unions gives people— particularly women and people of color — a powerful voice in speaking up for themselves, their families, and their communities, and ensures they are treated with dignity and respect at work; and

WHEREAS, when people stick together in unions, they gain the power in numbers to raise wages and improve benefits like health care for themselves, their families, and all of our communities; and

WHEREAS, people working collectively together in unions have won victories like the 40-hour work week, overtime pay, and health and safety standards, as well as

¹ <https://www.epi.org/productivity-pay-gap/>

² <https://aflcio.org/press/releases/ceo-pay-increases-347-times-average-workers>

advanced policies especially important to women like paid leave, earned sick time, and reducing the gender pay gap; and

WHEREAS, when people can negotiate together for strong contracts, higher wages, and safer, dignified working conditions, all of us benefit, our communities are stronger and our entire economy is made more fair; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court is considering the case *Janus v. AFSCME Council 31* which may decide whether those who work in the public service -- such as nurses, teachers and firefighters -- would be denied the freedom to come together in strong unions that make our communities safe, more equitable, and strong; and

WHEREAS, an unfavorable decision in this case would undermine the freedom for millions of working people, especially women and communities of color to join together in strong unions; and

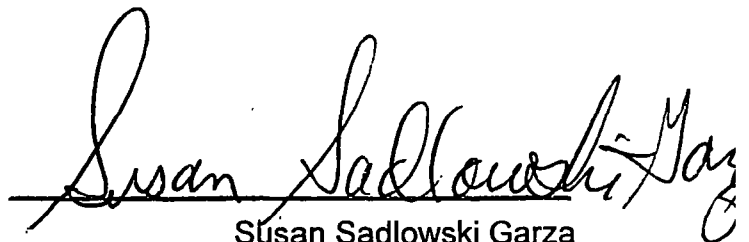
WHEREAS, the City of Chicago provides services to all of its residents because of the hard work of our neighbors who work in the public service, providing health care, educating our children, putting out fires, fixing our potholes, picking up our trash, and more; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that City of Chicago supports the freedom of all city employees to exercise their rights to a voice and dignity on the job through joining together in strong unions; and

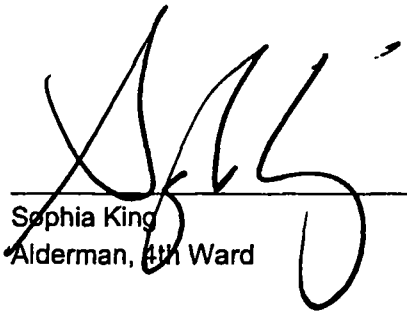
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the upcoming *Janus v. AFSCME* Supreme Court case will have a monumental impact on our city residents and this Council urges the Court to consider the legacy of Dr. King, the Memphis sanitation workers, and the public benefit created by workers organizing in rendering its decision.



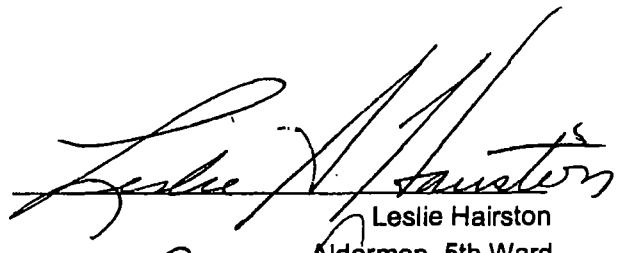
Carlos Ramirez-Rosa
Alderman, 35th Ward



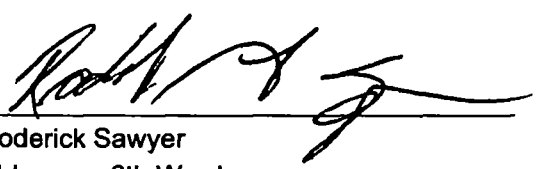
Susan Sadlowski Garza
Alderman, 10th Ward



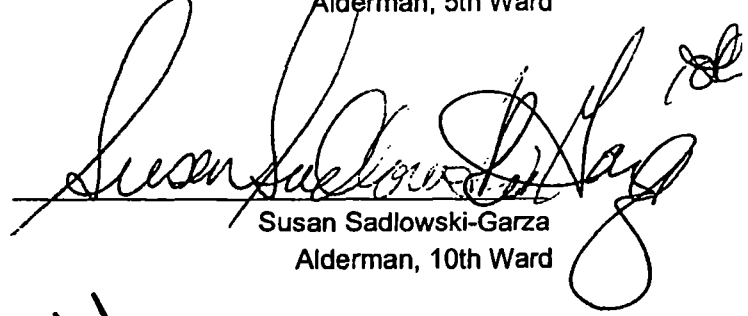
Sophia King
Alderman, 4th Ward



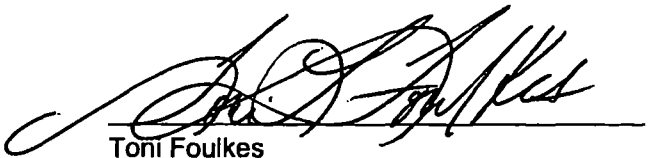
Leslie Hairston
Alderman, 5th Ward



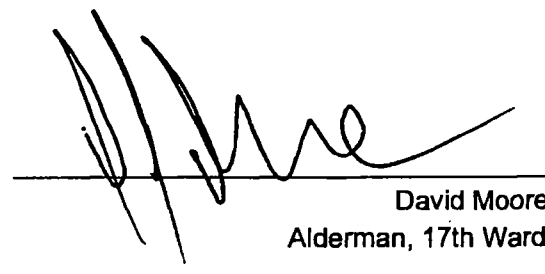
Roderick Sawyer
Alderman, 6th Ward




Susan Sadlowski-Garza
Alderman, 10th Ward



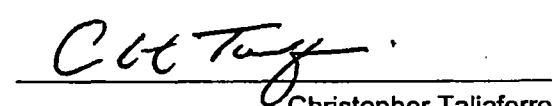
Toni Foulkes
Alderman, 16th Ward



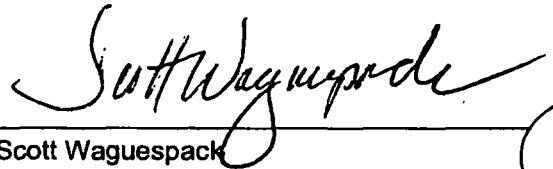
David Moore
Alderman, 17th Ward



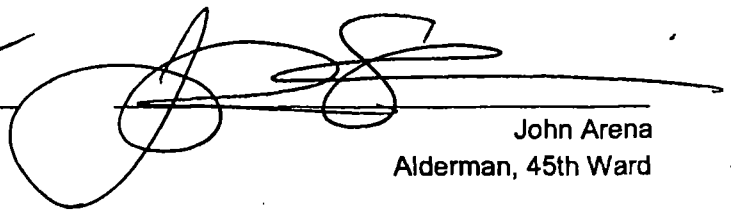
Ricardo Muñoz
Alderman, 22nd Ward



Christopher Taliaferro
Alderman, 29th Ward



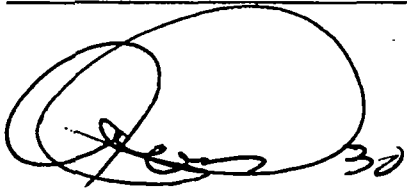
Scott Waguespack
Alderman, 32nd Ward

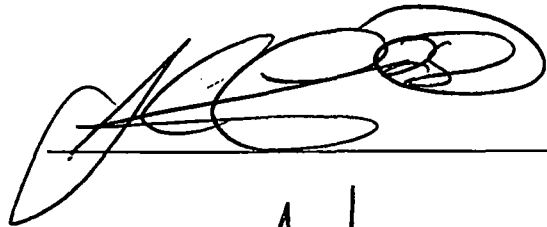


John Arena
Alderman, 45th Ward

Antyall Buck 9th Richard Sparto 38th

Munt Laurus

 30



Brad Hopkin

Par Donnell, 3rd

Edward B. Bunn 14

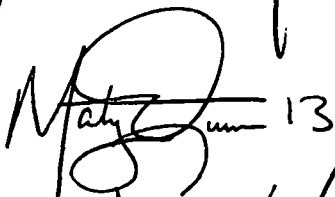
Robt. John L. 50


 40



Rocke Stew 43

Joseph A. Moran 49

 13

 40

 42

Walter Blocher 20

Anna M. Valencia
City Clerk

Ed 36th

Daniel John 25

Emmett 37th

Frank 47

Will 23

Paul Thayer 11

Joe 41st

Paul Blunt 18

James Capleman 46

Marl Scott 24

John 12th

Robert Marshall 26

Walter J. Oke 19

Michael & Dora 8th

Walter 27th

Rich Mull 33

Carrie M. Austin 34th

Ally Sutz (31)

Joe 44