



Office of the Chicago City
Clerk



O2011-8844

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	11/2/2011
Sponsor(s):	Solis, Daniel (25) And Others
Type:	Ordinance
Title:	Amendment of Chapter 8-4 of Municipal Code by adding new Section 365 regarding possession of cannabis
Committee(s) Assignment:	Committee on Public Safety

City Council
November 2, 2011

Refer to:
Committee on Public Safety

ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Chicago does not condone the use of marijuana as it is an illegal substance; and

WHEREAS, each year the Chicago Police Department arrests approximately 23,000 individuals for low level possession of marijuana; and

WHEREAS, a disproportionate number of these arrests are of minorities including 78% African-American, 17% Hispanic, and 5% Caucasian; and

WHEREAS, African-Americans account for 78 percent of those arrested, 89 percent of those convicted, and 92 percent of those jailed for low-level marijuana possession in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Police Department spends over 84,000 hours of police time on these types of arrests annually; and

WHEREAS, the 84,000 hours of Police Department resources could be better used on more serious, violent offenses; and

WHEREAS, the cost of jailing these offenders for one day is approximately \$143; and

WHEREAS, the City Council would like to begin a conversation among experts in health and public safety fields to gather data and information on possession of small amounts of marijuana; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance will increase police hours on the streets, reduce costs to the City of Chicago and Cook County, and will increase revenue for the city; and

WHEREAS, other cities in the State of Illinois have enacted similar legislation including Springfield, Carbondale, Champaign, Aurora, and unincorporated Cook County,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

SECTION 1. Chapter 8-4 of the Municipal Code of the City of Chicago is hereby amended by inserting a new section 8-4-365 as follows:

8-4-365 Possession of cannabis

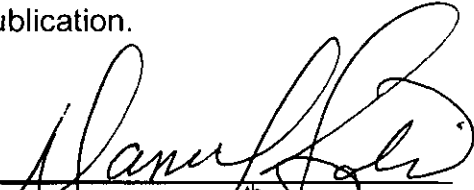
(a) All terms and phrases used herein shall have the same meaning as ascribed to them in the Cannabis Control Act (720 ILCS 550/1 et seq.).

(b) A person commits the offense of possession of cannabis within the City of Chicago by knowingly possessing ten (10) grams or less of any substance containing cannabis unless permitted or authorized to do so pursuant to the Cannabis Control Act (720 ILCS 550/1 et seq.).


(c) Any person violating subsection (b) shall be subject to a mandatory fine of not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) and shall complete ten (10) hours of community service.


(d) Any person issued a notice of violation for violation of subsection (b) of this Section may request an administrative hearing in accordance with this Code.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its passage and publication.


DANIEL SOLIS, 25th Ward

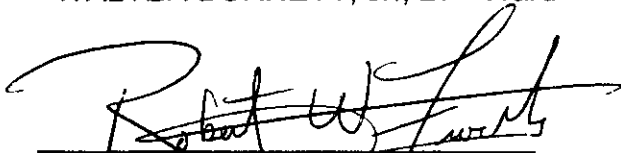

HOWARD BROOKINS, Jr., 21st Ward


RICHARD MELL, 33rd Ward



ARIEL REBOYRAS, 30th Ward

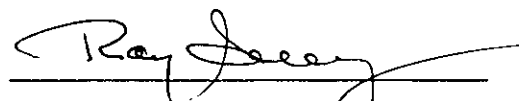

WALTER BURNETT, Jr., 27th Ward


PROCO JOE MORENO, 1st Ward


ROBERT FIORETTI, 2nd Ward


DEBORAH GRAHAM, 29th Ward


MICHELE SMITH, 43rd Ward


RAY SUAREZ, 31st Ward

Amiya Parna 47

James Appleman 44

Bob Apple 59th

Lora Lane 18th

Dennis Thompson 16th

Pat Dowell, 3rd

35th

Michael D. Challa 24th

Willie J. B. (4)

Nicholas Fossato 36th

Rock (7) (6)

Franki Jackson (7)

Leslie V. Hunter (5)

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