

## Office of the Chicago City Clerk



R2012-491

## Office of the City Clerk

## City Council Document Tracking Sheet

**Meeting Date:** 

Sponsor(s):

5/9/2012

Burnett, Walter (27) Moreno, Proco Joe (1) Colón, Rey (35)

Chandler, Michael D. (24) Thomas, Latasha R. (17) Thompson, Joann (16)

Foulkes, Toni (15) Balcer, James (11)

Zalewski, Michael R. (23)

Beale, Anthony (9) Pawar, Ameya (47) Cappleman, James (46)

Arena, John (45) Reboyras, Ariel (30)

Cardenas, George A. (12)

Cochran, Willie (20)
Jackson, Sandi (7)
Laurino, Margaret (39)
Cullerton, Timothy M. (38)

Brookins, Howard (21) Tunney, Thomas (44) Smith, Michele (43)

Austin, Carrie M. (34) Solis, Daniel (25)

Maldonado, Roberto (26)

Fioretti, Bob (2) Dowell, Pat (3)

Burke, Edward M. (14) Hairston, Leslie A. (5) Sawyer, Roderick T. (6)

Lane, Lona (18) Reilly, Brendan (42) Ervin, Jason C. (28)

Resolution

Type:

Expression of support for adequate state funding for Child Care Assistance Program for Fiscal Year 2012 - 2013

Committee(s) Assignment:

## RESOLUTION TO PROTECT CHILD CARE FUNDING

WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Human Services' Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) is a critical work support for Chicago parents and early learning opportunity for Chicago's children; and

**WHEREAS**, The CCAP serves approximately 55,000 children from the City of Chicago in communityand home-based child care programs that enable more than 30,000 low-income Chicago families to work; and

WHEREAS, There are approximately 120,000 children between the ages of birth to five years old in the City of Chicago that are income-eligible for the CCAP and approximately 135,000 children between the ages of 6 to 12 years old in the City of Chicago that are income-eligible for the CCAP for before- and after-school care; and

**WHEREAS**, There are over 1,100 center-based providers and over 13,000 home-based providers in the City of Chicago. Child care providers create an infrastructure that is critical for economic development, community growth, and family wellbeing. Without adequate policies that support child care, Chicago will lose a large part of this vital infrastructure that can not easily be rebuilt.

WHEREAS, Recent research shows that the early childhood workforce is a significant jobs creator (comparable to the amusement, gambling and recreation industry in Illinois), contributes to Illinois' business strength (comparable to the restaurant and drinking industry in gross receipts), and adds precious revenue to the City of Chicago through employee, sales and individual tax receipts paid by the child care workforce; and

**WHEREAS,** Economic developers understand that child care, like other infrastructure such as roads and bridges, is fundamental to the economy. Investment in child care not only supports working parents and their employers, but in conjunction with investment in early education, it prepares our future workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, Quality child care services are labor intensive, comprehensive in scope and therefore expensive to provide. Faced with high child care costs, families cannot work the low-wage jobs that have become the backbone of the growing service sector in Chicago without the assistance subsidized child care provides; and

WHEREAS, Illinois' Preschool for All program and the federally funded Head Start, which offers free (to families and the city of Chicago), educational enrichment activities that helps 3 and 4 year-olds develop appropriately and prepares them to succeed in school, is a 2.5 hour per day program. Two and a half hours of care per day is not sufficient to meet the needs of low-income working families, who must access the CCAP to cover any additional hours of care needed. Without CCAP, some of Chicago's highest risk, most disadvantaged children will miss out on the early education programs they so badly need.

**WHEREAS**, Given this reality, public funding for child care is socially necessary and fiscally responsible. A city that values its local economies, families' economic stability, and our city's youngest learners children will support child care; now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED,** That we, the Mayor and the members of the City Council of the City of Chicago assembled here this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2012 do hereby support adequate state funding of the Child Care Assistance Program for the remainder of FY12 and for the coming Fiscal Year 2013 to ensure low-income families have access to high-quality child care, supports for parental employment or education, and healthy child development services. Further, we support ample income eligibility

guidelines to ensure all low-income families can qualify for the program and reasonable copayment levels to ensure low-income families can remain in the program. Walter Burnett Alderman, 27th Ward Co-Sponsor Proce-Joe Moreno Alderman, 21<sup>st</sup> Ward Co-Sponsor Rey Colon Alderman, 35<sup>th</sup> Ward