



Office of the Chicago City  
Clerk



R2012-488

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

**Meeting Date:** 5/9/2012

**Sponsor(s):** Mitts, Emma (37)  
Fioretti, Bob (2)  
Sawyer, Roderick T. (6)  
Jackson, Sandi (7)  
Harris, Michelle A. (8)  
Pope, John (10)  
Foulkes, Toni (15)  
Thompson, Joann (16)  
Thomas, Latasha R. (17)  
Lane, Lona (18)  
Chandler, Michael D. (24)  
Solis, Daniel (25)  
Maldonado, Roberto (26)  
Burnett, Walter (27)  
Ervin, Jason C. (28)  
Reboyras, Ariel (30)  
Suarez, Regner Ray (31)  
Austin, Carrie M. (34)  
Cullerton, Timothy M. (38)  
Cochran, Willie (20)  
Brookins, Howard (21)

**Type:** Resolution

**Title:** Call for hearing(s) on issues created by gangster-style fashion trend among school-age children, and need for implementing school uniform requirement in Chicago schools

**Committee(s) Assignment:** Committee on Education and Child Development

RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS,** A current fashion trend for school-age children in the City of Chicago is to wear high-priced gangster-style clothing characterized by low-hanging pants, sideways baseball caps, designer shoes and excessive jewelry; and

**WHEREAS,** This trend can be attributed to the similar apparel worn by certain rappers, athletes and neighborhood thugs, who are often in trouble with the law, yet unfortunately have a tremendous influence on our children; and

**WHEREAS,** Beyond simply being unprofessional, this fashion trend is problematic because it leads to increased levels of youth violence, hinders learning and creates a financial and emotional strain on parents; and

**WHEREAS,** Gangster-style clothing increases violence levels because children try to act how they dress. If a child dresses like a gang banger, he or she is likely to be pressured to act like one so as not to be labeled a "poser" by his or her peers; and

**WHEREAS,** As a result, incidences of violence have gone up, and our schools have become less conducive to learning because children are concerned more about their safety than they are about their studies, and are also distracted from their work by undue attention to their appearance; and

**WHEREAS,** In addition to these troubling consequences, the high cost of this clothing puts a tremendous emotional and financial strain on parents, who become subject to demands by their children to buy this high-priced apparel so that they can "keep up" with the newest styles being worn by other students; and

**WHEREAS,** Given the adverse effects that gangster-style dress has on children, parents, and the City as a whole, it behooves this Council to address this dangerous trend by urging schools throughout Chicago to implement a school uniform requirement to a greater degree. This problem affects our most precious resource, our children, and it is thus our duty to act; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED,** That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of Chicago, assembled this eighteenth day of April, 2012, do hereby call upon the Committee on Education and Child Development to hold a hearing to address this important issue, and we ask that the Committee invite school officials and other interested members of the public in an effort to come up with a practical and effective solution to this problem affecting our City's youth.

*Michelle A. Thomas 8th*  
*Michael D. White 7th*  
*James B. ...*

*Robert ...*

*Walter ...*  
*Ray ... 31st*  
*John ... 16th*  
*John ... 20th*  
*John ... 18th*

*Emma Mitts*  
Emma Mitts  
Alderman, 37<sup>th</sup> Ward  
*Samuel ... 38th*  
*Kiana ... 25th*  
*Robert ... 26th*

*Jandi Jacobsen 7th*

Cairne M. Austin 34

 30

Walter  58

Joe A. Pope 10

 1574

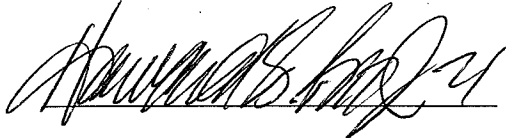
Josephine Adams 8th

Sandi Jackson 7th

Scott A. 5 (6)

Richard D. Chubb 24

Becky 20

 24