



City of Chicago



R2021-379

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 3/24/2021

Sponsor(s): Vasquez, Jr. (40)
Hairston (5)
Taylor (20)
Rodriguez Sanchez (33)
Cappleman (46)
Hadden (49)
La Spata (1)
Hopkins (2)
Sawyer (6)
Sadlowski Garza (10)
Rodriguez (22)
Scott, Jr. (24)
Sigcho-Lopez (25)
Burnett (27)
Cardona, Jr. (31)
Martin (47)

Type: Resolution

Title: Call for Illinois General Assembly to pass legislation replacing word "Alderman" in all places within Illinois Compiled Statutes (ILCS) with gender-neutral word "Alder"

Committee(s) Assignment: Committee on Committees and Rules

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago is a welcoming and inclusive city that seeks to respect and honor the lived experiences of its residents and its public servants, and

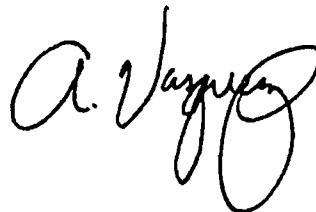
WHEREAS, the combined statutes of the State of Illinois (ILCS) govern the structures of municipal governments and the conduct of elections within the state, and set forth the offices for which public elections are to be held, and

WHEREAS, the term "Alderman" currently enshrined in law as the office held by members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, as well as other municipalities governed by similar sections of the ILCS, derives from explicitly gendered language denoting an "elder man" of the community, and

WHEREAS, there have at times in the history of Illinois been candidates seeking recognition as "Alderwoman" or other terms more representative of their gender identity who were denied the ability to do so, or were denied access to the ballot on the basis of their use of a title other than "Alderman," and

WHEREAS, the power to amend the ILCS and enshrine in law a gender-neutral term for the members of the City Council of Chicago, and of other municipalities governed by similar sections of the ILCS, lies with the Legislature of the State of Illinois, now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled here on this _____ day of _____, 20___, do hereby call upon the State Assembly and State Senate of Illinois to introduce, take up, and pass legislation amending in all places the use of the word "Alderman" in the ILCS to instead use the gender-neutral title "Alder," and in all places the use of the plural "Aldermen" to instead read "Alders."



Andre Vasquez, Jr.
Alderman, 40th Ward

Ald. Daniel La Spata, 1st Ward	Ald. Byron Sigcho Lopez, 35th Ward
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Committee on Health And Human Relations

Ald. Brian Hopkins, 2nd Ward	Ald. Walter Burnett Jr., 27th Ward
Ald. Leslie Hairston, 5th Ward , (Lead)	Ald. Felix Cardona, 31st Ward
Ald. Roderick Sawyer, 6th Ward	Ald. Rossana Rodriguez Sanchez (Lead)
Ald. Susan Sadlowski Garza, 10th Ward	Ald. James Cappleman, 46th Ward, (Lead)
Ald. Jeanette Taylor, 20th Ward, (Lead)	Ald. Matt Martin, 47th Ward
Ald. Michael Rodriguez, 22nd Ward	Ald. Maria Hadden, 49th Ward (Lead)
Ald. Michael Scott, 24th Ward	