



a home rule municipality and, as such, may exercise any power and perform any function related to its government and affairs; and

WHEREAS, The City owns and operates, through its Department of Aviation, airports known as Chicago O'Hare International Airport ("O'Hare") and Chicago Midway International Airport ("Midway") with the power to lease premises and facilities and to grant rights and privileges with respect thereto; and

WHEREAS, The Mayor and Chicago City Council wish to honor the service and sacrifice of all fallen military heroes returning to Chicago by ensuring that an appropriately decorated funeral caisson is available for all flights bearing the body of a fallen serviceman or servicewoman; and

WHEREAS, These military caissons shall be dedicated in honor of Alderman James Balcer, a former member of the U.S. Marine Corps, who served with distinction during the Vietnam War and is a recipient of a Bronze Star and three Purple Hearts; and

WHEREAS, During his long and distinguished career serving on Chicago's City Council and as the Director of Veterans Affairs, Alderman Balcer has championed many causes related to our military veterans, and he has worked tirelessly not only to honor the lives of those who have died in the line of duty but to ensure that returning veterans and their families receive the care and support they need and deserve; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this fifth day of November, 2014, do hereby call upon the air carriers using Chicago O'Hare International Airport and Chicago Midway International Airport to pledge to work with the Chicago Department of Aviation to ensure that the flag-draped caskets of our fallen heroes are transported with utmost dignity, using the designated Alderman James Balcer Caissons and in accordance with the standards required by the United States Department of Defense; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to Chicago's Department of Aviation, and to the local offices of all air carriers using Chicago O'Hare International Airport and Chicago Midway International Airport.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL MAYOR

November 3, 2014

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CHAIRMAN AND  
MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON  
FINANCE

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith, together with Alderman Burke, a resolution regarding the designation of certain military funeral caissons in honor of Alderman James Balcer.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

CHICAGO November 5, 2014

**To the President and Members of the City Council:**

**Your Committee on Finance having had under consideration**

A proposed resolution concerning the transportation of fallen military heroes returning to Chicago airports.

Having had the same under advisement, begs leave to report and recommend that your Honorable Body pass the proposed Ordinance Transmitted Herewith

**This recommendation was concurred in by  
of members of the committee with dissenting vote(s)7**

**(a (viva voce vote**

**Chairman**

**Respectfully submitted**