



WHEREAS, Heartland Alliance, an Illinois-licensed child welfare agency, is under contract with ORR as the sole provider of these services in the City of Chicago, serving seventy-three (73) children recently separated from their parents at the border; and

WHEREAS, recently United States Senator Richard Durbin urged HHS\*s Office of the Inspector General, to investigate a facility run by Heartland Alliance in Chicago, Casa Guadalupe, after the Washington Post reported that there had been allegations of abuse at this facility; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, which licenses the agency, has launched an investigation due to the claims: and

WHEREAS, the current political climate has brought to light both the ever-expanding role of these migrant children shelters and the extent to which the resources and capabilities of those charged with their oversight are increasingly burdened and strained; and

WHEREAS, the members of this City Council seek to ensure that the City apply its highest health and safety standards and oversight to ensure that these facilities offer safe and suitable conditions for children in their care; and

WHEREAS, the City has awarded funds to Heartland Alliance, a portion of which includes funds for legal services for unaccompanied minors; and

WHEREAS, the City has a responsibility to secure the health and well-being of these children who, regardless of the circumstances that brought them here, and notwithstanding how long their stay, are now also Chicago's children; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO: That the members of the City Council do hereby call on the Corporation Counsel and the Commissioner of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection or their designees to appear before the Committee on Finance to address City licensing of child welfare agencies in Chicago; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Budget Director appear before the Committee on Finance to address the nature, status, and oversight of funding disbursed by the City to Heartland Alliance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that representatives from Heartland Alliance do hereby appear

CHICAGO July 25, 2018

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

Your Committee on Finance having had under consideration a resolution calling for the Corporation Counsel, the Commissioner of the Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection, the Budget Director and representatives of Heartland Alliance to appear before the Committee on

