



Office of the City Clerk

City Hall
121 N. LaSalle St.
Room 107
Chicago, IL 60602
www.chicityclerk.com

Legislation Text

File #: SR2021-996, **Version:** 1

SUBSTITUTE resolution

WHEREAS, The U.S. Census Bureau is the Nation's leading provider of data collection on race and ethnicity, although, it does not include all of the Nation's identified groups; and

WHEREAS, Specifically, the U.S. Census Bureau excludes Middle Eastern or North African (MENA) Americans (also referred to as Arab Americans) from its data; and

WHEREAS, The exclusion of MENA Americans from the U.S. Census Bureau has led to the inability for MENA Americans to obtain affirmative action resources provided to other historically disadvantaged groups; and

WHEREAS, The American Community Survey (ACS) revealed that MENA Americans have suffered pervasive society-wide prejudice and discrimination or practices, and that over time those conditions have resulted in economic deprivation; and

WHEREAS, The City of Chicago is home to the fourth largest urban concentration of MENA American population in the United States, and according to the Illinois Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, the Arab population in Chicago as of 2020 was around 150,000; and

WHEREAS, Government agencies, like the Illinois Department of Public Health, have recently expanded their data collection of race and ethnicity to include persons who self-identify as MENA American; and, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, call for a study to be conducted regarding inclusion of MENA Americans as a minority group for purposes of the City's Construction MBE Program.

Gilbert Villegas Alderman, 36th Ward

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, ANNA M. VALENCIA

Chicago City Council Co-Sponsor FormSR2021-996

Subject: Call for Chicago Municipal Code Section 2-92-420 to include Middle Eastern or North African Americans as minority group

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Alderman

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