



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority ("MPEA") recently designated the area of the City bound by 21st Street to the north, the Stevenson Expressway to the south, the CTA Green Line to the west, and the lake to the east as "McCormick Square;" and

WHEREAS, the MPEA released promotional materials claiming the aforementioned area as "Chicago's Newest Neighborhood;" and

WHEREAS, the MPEA expects to spend \$250,000 of taxpayer money on marketing "McCormick Square" as Chicago's newest neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the name for McCormick Place was established 56 years ago at a time when societal values allowed Robert R. McCormick's regressive views on race, his bias against Asians, and his staunch anti-Mexican immigrant positions to be overlooked; and

WHEREAS, the MPEA chose to reinforce the name "McCormick" on the aforementioned area of the city in 2016, a year marked by the divisive presidential campaign of Donald Trump and his anti-immigrant, racially, and religiously intolerant views; and

WHEREAS, Section 1-14-010 of the Chicago Municipal Code states that the naming or renaming of a community area or neighborhood shall only be done through passage of an ordinance; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved, That we, the Mayor, and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here this 20th day of July, 2016, hereby express that we do not support the name "McCormick Square" for the area of the City bound by 21st Street to the north, the Stevenson Expressway to the south, the CTA Green Line to the west, and the lake to the east; and

Be It Further Resolved, That the City Council calls on MPEA to stop use of the designation "McCormick Square" and that MPEA bring a formal request to the City Council for approval and passage of an ordinance permitting use of public dollars to rename the area.