



Office of the City Clerk

City Hall
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Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	R2021-379	Status:	Failed to Pass
Type:	Resolution	In control:	City Council
File created:	3/24/2021	Final action:	5/24/2023
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"		
Sponsors:	Vasquez, Jr., Andre, Hairston, Leslie A., Taylor, Jeanette B., Rodriguez Sanchez, Rossana, Cappelman, James, Hadden, Maria E., La Spata, Daniel, Hopkins, Brian, Sawyer, Roderick T., Sadlowski Garza, Susan, Rodriguez, Michael D., Scott, Jr. Michael, Sigcho-Lopez, Byron, Burnett, Jr., Walter, Cardona, Jr., Felix, Martin, Matthew J.		
Indexes:	ILLINOIS, STATE OF		
Attachments:	1. R2021-379.pdf		

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
5/24/2023	1	City Council	Failed to Pass	
3/24/2021	1	City Council	Referred	

Committee on Health And Human Relations (

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

Aid. Byron Sigcho Lopez, 35th Ward

Committee on Health And Human Relations

Aid. Brian Hopkins, 2nd Ward
Aid. Leslie Hairston, 5th Ward, (Lead)
Aid. Roderick Sawyer, 6th Ward
Aid. Susan Sadlowski Garza, 10th Ward
Aid. Jeanette Taylor, 20th Ward, (Lead)
Aid. Michael Rodriguez, 22nd Ward
Aid. Michael Scott, 24th Ward

Aid. Walter Burnett Jr., 27th Ward
Aid. Felix Cardona, 31st Ward
Aid. Rossana Rodriguez Sanchez (Lead)
Aid. James Cappleman, 46th Ward, (Lead)
Aid. Matt Martin, 47th Ward
Aid. Maria Hadden, 49th Ward (Lead)