



WHEREAS, A 2020 University of Chicago and Brandeis University study found that one in five Jewish families in Chicago were "struggling to make ends meet" thus making school lunch a critical component of their children's health, well-being and development; and,

WHEREAS, studies show that hunger or inadequate nutrition affects learning by curbing a child's physical development, inhibiting their ability to focus and perform, and limiting their future achievements; and,

WHEREAS, these same studies show that hunger and under-nutrition in children can cause low academic achievement and behavioral problems; and,

WHEREAS, the noble efforts of these Jewish and Muslim families to maintain their religious identity and practices while sending their children to receive an education in Chicago Public Schools are being thwarted by a failure or inability of CPS administrators to follow and meet their own Faith-Based policy guidelines to accommodate and not discriminate against the religious practices of their students; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, that we, the members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, call upon the Committee on Health and Human Relations to convene a hearing to examine the failure of Chicago Public Schools to meet the religious dietary needs of their students, as required by its policies; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, that representatives from the Chicago Public Schools administration, Office of Nutrition Support Services, Office of Faith-Based Initiatives, and its food provider be invited to appear before the Committee on Education and Child Development to provide testimony on its food service policies; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, that representatives from the Jewish United Fund and the Islamic Food and Nutrition Council of America be invited to appear and testify on the importance of providing Kosher and Halal food to children of their respective faiths.