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City Hall
121 N. LaSalle St.
Room 107
Chicago, IL 60602
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Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: R2022-975
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File created: 9/21/2022
Status: Failed to Pass
In control: City Council
Final action: 5/24/2023
Title: Call for hearing(s) on financial impact of healthcare coverage subsidy changes
Sponsors: Lopez, Raymond A.
Indexes: Committee on Finance
Attachments: 1. R2022-975.pdf

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
5/24/2023	1	City Council	Failed to Pass	
9/21/2022	1	City Council	Referred	

Committee on Finance Chicago City Council
Meeting September 21, 2022

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, pushed by Mayor Rahm Emanuel and approved by the Illinois General Assembly, drastic cuts to the pension benefits earned by active and retired city of Chicago employees were signed into law by Governor Pat Quinn on June 9, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago fully discontinued subsidizing retiree healthcare of individuals too young to qualify for Medicare in 2017, attempting to shift the cost onto the Affordable Care Act, the new federal health care system created by then President Barack Obama; and,

WHEREAS, the basis for the health care coverage subsidy changes was the projected cost of \$541 Million spent on eligible retirees not qualifying for federal health care coverage; and,

WHEREAS, in an effort towards transparency and reform, City of Chicago residents should be given an update on cuts made to retiree health care and pension benefits, including how much has been saved, and where those excess funds have been diverted; and

WHEREAS, there has been a sufficient time has passed since the discontinuance of healthcare coverage subsidy for retirees between the ages 55 thru 64 years of age for objective and qualitative policy analysis by the City of Chicago's Financial teams and corresponding legislative bodies; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CITY OF CHICAGO, that we, the Members of the City Council of Chicago, call upon the Committee on Finance to convene a public hearing to examine the financial impact of those healthcare coverage subsidy changes, that the Committee on Finance receive testimony from retirees on the financial impact and lasting effects of this eliminated benefit, and discuss feasibility of reinstating the subsidy.