



# Office of the City Clerk

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## Legislation Text

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**File #:** R2015-252, **Version:** 1

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regarding creation of local right to work zones Committee on Workforce Development and Audit

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL MAYOR

April 15, 2015

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith, together with Aldermen Moreno, Fioretti, Dowell, Burns, Hairston, Sawyer, Harris, Beale, Pope, Balcer, Cardenas, Quinn, Burke, Foulkes, Thomas, O'Shea, Brookins, Munoz, Zalewski, Solis, Burnett, Ervin, Graham, Mell, Austin, Colon, Sposato, Mitts, Cullerton, Laurino, Patrick O'Connor, Mary O'Connor, Cappleman, Pawar, Osterman, Moore and Silverstein, a resolution regarding a recent proposal by Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner calling for the creation of local right to work zones.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Mayor

Very truly yours,

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner has repeatedly called for the creation of local right to work zones, in which voters could decide if workers in their communities employed in unionized industries can opt out of paying union dues or equitable fees for representation to labor organizations; and

WHEREAS, Governor Rauner has asked for city councils across Illinois to consider a resolution asking for voter referenda to allow local right to work zones, limit prevailing wage laws as well as changes to workers' compensation laws and eliminating project labor agreements; and

WHEREAS, such action has the potential to dismantle labor organizations, which have historically protected the rights of working and middle-class Chicagoans, and could lead to lower median wages, reduced benefits, and unsafe working conditions for all employees whether they are union or nonunion; and

WHEREAS, The Illinois Attorney General has rendered an opinion unequivocally declaring the concept of local right to work zones both preempted by federal labor law and illegal under Illinois law;

WHEREAS, The Illinois Attorney General has rendered an opinion unequivocally declaring that local opt-out of prevailing wage laws would violate the Illinois Prevailing Wage Law; and

WHEREAS, this attack on established laws meant to protect working families is an attempt to weaken organized labor, undercut Chicago and Illinois contractors and businesses by allowing out of state entities and workers to take Chicago jobs and will not make Chicago or Illinois a more competitive business environment, evidenced by the fact that similar laws in other states have had no impact on attracting employers to a particular state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of Chicago, assembled this fifteenth day of April, 2015, do hereby declare our opposition to the gubernatorial proposal to create local right to work zones in Illinois; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call upon the Committee on Workforce Development and Audit to hold a hearing to address this important issue, and we ask that the Committee invite appropriate officials and interested members of the public in an effort to fully address this matter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be delivered to the Governor of the State of Illinois, the President of the Illinois Senate, the Minority Leader of the Illinois Senate, the Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives, and the Minority Leader of the Illinois House of Representatives

## Chicago City Council Co-Sponsor Addition/Change

Document No.: R2015-252

Subject: Hearing on Creation of Right to Work Zones

Please Add Or Change The Co-Sponsor As Shown Below.

Alderman Willie Cochran

(\_\_20th Ward)

Alderman ( Ward)

Alderman ( Ward)

Alderman ( Ward)

Alderman ( Ward)

Please Remove Or Change The Co-Sponsor As Shown Below.

Alderman ( Ward)

Alderman ( Ward)

Alderman ( Ward)

Alderman ( Ward)

Alderman ( Ward)

Date Filed May 5. 2015

Signature

Principal Sponsor

Final copies to be filed with:

- Chairman of Committee to which legislation was referred

Chairman Patrick J. O'Connor  
Committee on Workforce Development and Audit