



# Office of the City Clerk

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## Legislation Text

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**File #:** R2015-698, **Version:** 1

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### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Chicago City Council recognizes the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) as integral to supporting working families and parents furthering their education or training, in order to reach their full economic potential; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago City Council recognizes that through CCAP, young children are cared for in enriching environments that promote their healthy physical, cognitive, and social development, thus preparing them to succeed in school; and

WHEREAS, every dollar invested in the Illinois early care and education sector generates \$1.94 in economic activity, more than most other major economic sectors\*; and

WHEREAS, CCAP advances the City and State's goal of making preschool accessible for all children by providing working families with quality care arrangements outside of or in addition to part-day preschool and Head Start programs; and

WHEREAS, CCAP makes out of school time care accessible for working families, providing school-age children with additional learning opportunities in safe and supervised environments; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of Chicago urge the Illinois General Assembly to take legislative measures to maintain access to CCAP for working families by ensuring the program's eligibility requirements shall be no more restrictive than the requirements in place on June 30, 2015; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council of Chicago urge the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) to maintain a parent copayment scale that ensures parents never pay more than 10 percent of their family income for child care services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council of Chicago urge IDHS to re-evaluate CCAP's income eligibility guidelines based on the City of Chicago's increasing minimum wage to ensure families earning minimum wage remain eligible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council of Chicago urge the Illinois General Assembly and the Governor to prioritize CCAP funding in the State budget and make every attempt to maximize federal funding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council of Chicago Committee on Education and Child Development shall hold a hearing annually to assess the accessibility of CCAP services for working families, the alignment of CCAP and preschool enrollment, and the impact on Chicago communities.

William D. Burns Alderman, 4<sup>th</sup> Ward

\*Strengthening Illinois Business through Investments in Early (/are and Education. A report by ReadyNation/America'sEdge 2014