



# Office of the City Clerk

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## Legislation Text

File #: R2018-1053, Version: 1

Committee on Human Relations - September  
20, 2018 City Council Meeting

### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Nabeel Rajab is a prominent human rights defender and democracy advocate in Bahrain; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago City Council has been informed by Alderman Scott Waguespack of Nabeel Rajab's imprisonment in Bahrain due to his human rights work; and

WHEREAS, Nabeel Rajab is a co-founder<sup>1</sup> and president<sup>2</sup> of the Bahrain Centre for Human Rights; and

WHEREAS, Nabeel Rajab is a founding director of the Gulf Centre for Human Rights<sup>3</sup>; and

WHEREAS, Nabeel Rajab is a member of the Advisory Committee of Human Rights Watch's Middle East Division ; and

WHEREAS, Nabeel Rajab has served as the Deputy Secretary General for the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH); and

WHEREAS, in 2011 Nabeel Rajab was awarded the Ion Ratu Democracy Award by the . Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars ; and

WHEREAS, on February 21, 2018 Nabeel Rajab was sentenced to five years in jail for tweets concerning the war in Yemen and allegations of torture at Jaw Prison , a sentence upheld on appeal and still to be appealed before the Court of Cassation ; and

<sup>1</sup> <<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/person/nabeel-rajab>>

<sup>2</sup>

<<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/21/world/middleeast/nabeel-rajab-bahrain-twitter.html>><sup>3</sup>

<[https://www.gc4hr.org/page/about\\_us](https://www.gc4hr.org/page/about_us)>

<sup>4</sup>

<<https://www.hrw.org/news/2013/12/18/middle-east-and-north-africa-division-advisory-committee>>

<sup>5</sup>

<<https://www.fidh.org/en/region/north-africa-middle-east/bahrain/Bahrain-FIDH-Demands-the-immediate>>

<sup>6</sup>

<<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/article/bahraini-human-rights-activist-nabeel-rajab-to-receive-2011-ion->>

<sup>7</sup>

<<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/21/world/middleeast/nabeel-rajab-bahrain-twitter.html>>

<sup>8</sup>

WHEREAS, the hard work, sacrifice and dedication of Nabeel Rajab on behalf of human rights around the world serve as an example to all; and

WHEREAS, respect for and protection of freedom of expression is a core value of the Chicago City Council; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this twenty-fifth day of July, 2018, do hereby declare Nabeel Rajab to be an Honorary Citizen of the City of Chicago, and call for his immediate and unconditional release; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Nabeel Rajab and to the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United States.

<<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/06/bahrain-nabeel-rajab-unfair-conviction-for-twitter-posts->