



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

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Committee on Budget and Operations December 12, 2018 City
Council Meeting

ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, a system providing for the compensation of workers' families after the death of the worker due to a workplace accident was first created in Illinois in 1910; and

WHEREAS, that system was expanded in 1913 to provide for the compensation of workers injured at the workplace; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Chicago created a Bureau of Workmen's Compensation shortly thereafter to administer workers' compensation claims filed by employees of the City of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, that bureau, ever since, has been housed within the Committee on Finance; and

WHEREAS, the structure of the administration of city programs and services has changed dramatically since then, although the structure of that bureau has changed little; and

WHEREAS, that structure shields the bureau, which manages \$100 million annually, from oversight by the Inspector General of the City of Chicago, placing the bureau at risk for waste and inefficiency, despite best efforts; and

WHEREAS, that risk creates further cynicism among the taxpaying public, undermining trust in the government of the City of Chicago and in this body; therefore

BE it ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

SECTION 1. Sections 2-152-430 and 2-152-440 of the Municipal Code of Chicago is hereby amended by deleting the language stricken and adding the language underscored, as follows:

2-152-430 Bureau personnel.

The bureau of workmen's compensation shall be composed of such persons as may be designated or appointed by the ~~chairman of the committee on finance~~ corporation counsel of the City of Chicago. (Prior code § 25-39)

2-152-440 Payment of compensation.

The comptroller is hereby authorized to pay, from any fund appropriated for the purpose of said bureau, vouchers to be approved by the ~~chairman of the committee on finance~~ corporation counsel of the City of Chicago upon the recommendation of said bureau to any person, or in case of his death, to his personal representative, such sum of money as such person or his personal representative shall from time to time be entitled to under and by virtue of the provisions of said acts described in Section 2-152-420.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be in effect 90 days after its passage and approval.