



# Office of the City Clerk

City Hall  
121 N. LaSalle St.  
Room 107  
Chicago, IL 60602  
[www.chicityclerk.com](http://www.chicityclerk.com)

## Legislation Text

---

File #: R2020-288, Version: 1

---

1

City Council April 22, 2020 Committee on Economic,  
Capital and Technology Development

### RESOLUTION

#### **On Using Tax Increment Financing to Support Businesses During State of Illinois Disaster Proclamations**

WHEREAS, in late 2019 and early 2020, a global outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) emerged; and,

WHEREAS, Centers for Disease Control and Protection emphasize that the virus that causes COVID-19 is spreading easily and sustainably between people, as the virus is spread through respiratory droplets between people who are in close contact with one another (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-covid-spreads.html>); and,

WHEREAS, Governor J.B. Pritzker issued a disaster proclamation on March 9, 2020, regarding the spread of COVID-19 in Illinois, and issued subsequent executive orders limiting large gatherings, limiting operations of restaurants and bars, and defining essential businesses to remain open during the outbreak; and,

WHEREAS, limited business functions is placing strain on business operating revenue, especially for small businesses throughout the City of Chicago ("the City"); and,

WHEREAS, small businesses provide a crucial foundation to the City's economy and neighborhood base, offering employment, services, and places for congregation for residents; and,

WHEREAS, the City must act swiftly and definitively to enact economic and financial policies to support its businesses; and,

WHEREAS, the City can use Tax Increment Financing (TIF) structures designed to support small business infrastructure to pivot to disaster relief measures; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois enabling legislation that defines TIF purposes must be revised to allow the City to reorient available TIF funds for small business support; and,

WHEREAS, reorienting TIF funds for small business support is necessary to prevent the obsolescence of these commercial uses (due to economic and public health crisis), and to recognize that the survival of many small businesses will not occur during these, crises but-for government intervention; and,

WHEREAS, revising Illinois TIF enabling legislation and reorienting City TIF programming can expand TIF reform, and satisfy resident demands to use TIF funds in a more equitable and transparent manner.

Daniel La Spata Alderman, 1<sup>st</sup> Ward

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, the State of Illinois legislature and Governor J.B. Pritzker are encouraged to enact TIF enabling reform making operating loans and grants to small businesses an applicable use of TIF during times of disaster, to allow the City of Chicago to use TIF funds to further support small businesses when the Governor issues disaster proclamations, including the current proclamation.