

Legislation Text

File #: R2020-1069, Version: 1

RESOLUTION: IMMUNIZATION FOR ALL

Whereas, it is very important to have life-saving covid testing, vaccinations, contact tracing, isolation/quarantine and other survival resources for Chicago's Black and Brown communities, who have 2.5 times more covid infections and deaths than whites.

Whereas, 30% of All Chicago Households do not have a car, with over 50% of Households in Black & Brown Community Areas, like Englewood, having no car, making it impossible for families to access the vast majority of city, state and private Chicago covid 19 testing sites, which are drive-up only or not walk-up friendly, including All CVS & Walgreens Drive-up Only testing sites

Whereas, all or most of these drive-up covid testing sites may well also become covid vaccination drive-up sites

Whereas, 85,000 more white people in Chicago have been tested for covid than African Americans and Latinos;

Whereas, many people, especially in Black and Brown communities, have the highest unemployment, homeless rates and/or do not have health insurance;

Whereas cold weather will require indoor, well ventilated, safe testing/vaccination sites; and

Whereas, the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) has been down-sized more than any other U.S. local public health department, from 2,000 employees in 1991 to less than 500 now, and programs for the health of the people have been outsourced to private corporations thus fragmenting the public health system, creating an ineffective, de-centralized public health response, and failing to provide full-time, unionized jobs with benefits, especially to our African American and Latino neighborhoods with the highest unemployment rates.

Be it resolved that free, permanent, walk up-friendly indoor sites for covid testing, flu shots, and covid vaccinations be set up safely in Chicago park district field houses, school gymnasiums, CDPH Facilities, Chicago Department of Family & Support Services Facilities, including but not limited to, all Senior Centers & Cooling/Warming Centers, All Chicago Armories, other large, accessible and well ventilated indoor public sites, prioritizing the Black & Brown zip codes hardest hit by covid; and

Be it resolved that action be taken by City Council and the mayor to expand the City Public Health Department, with employment geared to hiring adults and youth from Chicago's Black and Brown neighborhoods for public health, union jobs with full-benefits, including, but not limited to: on-site covid registration, screening, health education, testing, contact tracing, resource assistance, vaccinations, personal protective equipment distribution, and being trained, certified and deputized for public health jobs described here within.

Alderman Ward 25

CITY OF CHICAGO



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Document No.

Resolution: Immunization for All

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R2020-1069

Call for establishment of indoor sites for covid testing, flu shots and covid vaccinations at

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Chicago Park District fieldhouses, school gymnasiums, and Chicago Department of Public

Health and Department of Family and Support Services facilities

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Alderman

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