



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

File #: R2021-38, **Version:** 1

Committees Assignment:

Cn -

Committee on Public Safety

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on January 6, 2021, thousands armed and violent domestic terrorists who supported Donald Trump overran and occupied the United States Capitol in an attempt to prevent the lawful transfer of leadership to President-elect Joe Biden and,

WHEREAS, The attackers at the Capitol building came armed with firearms, improvised explosive devices, armor, restraints, and other clear and obvious weapons of war, said items having no purpose other than the violent disruption of the governance of the United States of America, and,

WHEREAS, The domestic terrorist attack led to the death of 6 individuals, including 2 police officers and injuries to many others, and

WHEREAS, John Catanzara, the serving President of Lodge 7 of the Fraternal Order of Police, spoke in support of the actions of those armed insurrectionists, stating of the attackers at the Capitol building in a recorded interview with WBEZ that "They get to do what they want," and "They're entitled to voice their frustration," and "If the worst crime here is trespassing, so be it. But to call these people treasonous is beyond ridiculous and ignorant," and

WHEREAS, the National Fraternal Order of Police rebuked Catanzara's characterization of the attackers at the Capitol stating "The National FOP rejects this gross mischaracterization and sees the incident for what it was—a violent mob of looters and vandals, visiting fear and destruction on one of our nation's most sacred spaces, who should be held accountable for their actions and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law," and

WHEREAS, the Constitution and By-Laws of Lodge 7 of the Fraternal Order of Police bar from membership "Any person who is a member of, or subscribes to, or supports the principles of any organization having as its purpose the overthrow of the government of the United States by force or violence," and

WHEREAS, Sydney Roberts, Chief Administrator of the Civilian Office of Police Accountability made a recommendation in 2020 that Catanzara be fired from the Chicago Police Department based on his prior misconduct, and

WHEREAS, the residents of Chicago deserve to have faith in their police force, and the sworn officers of Chicago deserve union representation by leadership who reflect their highest ideals and strictest fealty to the Constitution and the laws of the nation, state, and city, now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled here on this 27th day of January, 2021, do hereby call upon John Catanzara to resign his position as President of Lodge 7 of the Fraternal Order of Police, and his membership in that Lodge, and

Committee on Public Safety

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, absent such a resignation, we, the City Council of the City of Chicago, call upon the Board of Directors of Lodge 7 of the Fraternal Order of Police to request as a body the resignation of John Catanzara from his position as President of the Lodge, and his membership in that Lodge, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that absent any such resignation, we, the City Council of the City of Chicago, call upon the Chicago Police Department's Bureau of Internal Affairs to investigate John Catanzara's actions and their discredit to the City of Chicago and the Chicago Police Department.

Andre Vasquez, Jr.

Co-Sponsors

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