



Office of the City Clerk

City Hall
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Room 107
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Legislation Text

File #: R2021-842, Version: 1

**Chicago City Council July
21, 2021**

RESOLUTION CALLING ON A REVIEW OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS COMPLAINT-BASED INSPECTIONS

WHEREAS, The City of Chicago ("City") is responsible for the safety of its residents and ensuring residential buildings throughout the City are following lifesaving precautions to protect residents; and

WHEREAS, Data from the Better Government Association shows that from 2014 to 2019 there were 140 fatal fires in residential buildings throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, In 42 of the 140 fatal fires, the City had prior knowledge of the safety concerns in existence when such fires occurred; and

WHEREAS, In 2018, The City of Chicago Office of Inspector General ("OIG") completed an audit investigating the Department of Buildings' ("DOB") complaint-based inspections; and

WHEREAS, The OIG's report specifically reviewed whether the DOB met the required deadlines for responding to building complaints, whether the DOB effectively prioritized complaints, and whether the records of building code violations available to the public were complete and accurate; and

WHEREAS, The OIG's report concluded there were not effective strategies for prioritizing complaint-based inspections, and that the records of building code violations available to the public were not complete; and

WHEREAS, The complaint-based inspections are a crucial safeguard to preventing fatal residential building fires; and

WHEREAS, The City must ensure the DOB is prioritizing complaint-based inspections and that the records of building code violations available to the public are complete; and, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, call to hold open hearings led by the Committee on Zoning, Landmarks and Building Standards to review the changes made since the 2018 audit and the current effectiveness of the City of Chicago Department of Buildings' complaint-based inspections.

Gilbert Villegas Alderman, 36th Ward

CITY OF CHICAGO

OFFICE OF* THE CITY CLERK ANNA
M. VALENCIA

Chicago City Council Co-Sponsor Form

R2021-842

Call for hearing(s) on review of changes made to Department of Buildings' complaint-based inspections

Adding Co-Sponsor(s)

Please ADD Co-Sponsor(s) Shown Below- (Principal Sponsor's Consent Required)

Daniel La Spata

(Signature)

Alderman

(Signature)

Principal Sponsor:

(Signature)

*Removing Co-Sponsor(s) Please REMOVE Co-Sponsor(s) Below- (Principal
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Alderman

(Signature)

Alderman

(Signature)

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Final Copies To Be Filed With: • Chairman of Committee to which legislation was referred
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