



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

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RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT A RESPONSIBLE CONTRACTOR POLICY (RCP) IN THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Whereas the Aldermen and the Mayor of Chicago have a duty and fiduciary responsibility as elected officials to protect and promote the responsible and ethical use of Chicago taxpayer dollars; and

Whereas it is essential that the City have a way to hold contractors accountable for their use of taxpayer dollars, ensuring that companies awarded public contracts to produce goods and provide services are responsible, qualified, law-abiding and trustworthy and that they provide quality jobs with fair wages, benefits, and working conditions; and

Whereas the following public bodies have already enacted a Responsible Contractor Policy, or RCP, as a means to hold companies accountable for their use of public funds: Village of Coal City, City of Aurora, City of Chicago Heights, City of Orland Park, City of Springfield, Kane County, Will County, New Lenox School District and Springfield Park District; and

Whereas without the protection of a Responsible Contractor Policy, the City of Chicago has limited means of protecting the public from irresponsible contractors, and

Whereas when contract cost is prioritized over all other considerations, dishonorable contractors may cheat in order to submit unrealistically low bids, and those who are willing to cut corners gain an enormous cost advantage, thereby putting responsible contractors at a competitive disadvantage and reducing the quality of service provided to City facilities; and

Whereas with the lowest bidder model, workers have been cheated out of wages; communities have been robbed of revenue, and taxpayers have been unwittingly subsidizing illegal practices; and

Whereas when dishonest contractors are caught performing poorly or breaking the law, the integrity of elected public officials comes under scrutiny; and

Whereas because the state of Illinois and the City of Chicago are facing immense budget shortfalls and thus an increased need to protect public resources from exploitation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Chicago and the Mayor that we will work towards a Responsible Contractor Policy as an effective mechanism for ensuring that only responsible, law-abiding contractors win bids, promoting the ethical use of taxpayer dollars.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Chicago and the Mayor together will commit that the RCP will comply with all Federal and State laws pre-requisite to doing business in Illinois, comply with all provisions of the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act, provide fair wages and benefits, including affordable quality health coverage, produce evidence of a federal employer tax number or social security number, provide evidence of compliance with Equal Opportunity Employee requirements, and provide evidence of all specified insurance coverage.

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