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Legislation Text

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SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Chicago City Council supports policies that improve patient access to timely and appropriate health care for all; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago City Council believes that our City's emergency response system must help patients achieve the most optimal outcome possible; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago City Council is concerned about access to Level 1 trauma care services for adult residents on the City's South Side; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) holds regulatory, statutory and planning authority over the state's trauma system; and

WHEREAS, the IDPH Division of EMS & Highway Safety has developed a 5-year strategic plan that was unveiled in September 2010; and

WHEREAS the IDPH Division of EMS & Highway Safety 5-year strategic plan includes identification of new funding sources for agency activities, and promulgating rules that define the process for the need and development of trauma systems that assure timely access to care and appropriate facility placement and distribution; and

WHEREAS, the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act (PPACA) Section 305(b) contains state grants of \$300 million annually from FY2010 through FY2015 for the purpose of supporting trauma-related physician specialties and broadening access to and availability of trauma care services; now therefore BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Chicago urge the Illinois Department of Public Health, in accordance with its Division of EMS & Highway Safety 5-year strategic plan, to study the issues surrounding timely access to trauma care on the City's South Side and make recommendations that will improve access to these services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Chicago urge the Illinois Congressional delegation to protect the state trauma grants contained in the PPACA and work to appropriate an appropriate level of funding to the State of Illinois; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Chicago urge IDPH to form a committee immediately upon adoption of this Resolution to identify a solution to the problem of lack of Level 1 trauma centers for adult residents on the City's South Side within 90 days of the committee's formation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Chicago urge the University of Chicago to reopen its emergency room as a Level 1 Trauma Center to ensure the south side of Chicago has a place where emergency services can be delivered.