

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism of the United Nations Human Rights Council is a unique process established in 2006 which involves a review of the human rights records of all UN Member States; and

WHEREAS, we are concerned that the United States government has so far neglected its obligation to actively participate in its 4th UPR by failing to submit its national report that was due on August 4, 2025; and

WHEREAS, while UN General Assembly resolution 60/251 establishing the UPR process commits the Council to undertaking a review "with the full involvement of the country concerned", given the U.S. disengagement from the Human Rights Council and its flippant disregard for its main pillars - Special Procedures and the UPR process - the Council should complete this crucial peer-to-peer assessment of the U.S.' human rights record regardless of whether the U.S. federal government participates in the process; and

WHEREAS, as a nation we should always strive to strengthen our adherence to international human rights obligations and reaffirm our dedication to contributing responsibly and meaningfully to the protection of human rights at the federal, state, and local levels; and

WHEREAS, the responsibility to uphold and implement the United Nations' human rights recommendations does not rest solely with the federal government – as local officials, we hold the authority, capacity, and duty to advance these principles within our City; and

WHEREAS, City officials cannot, in good conscience, remain silent in the face of the federal government's blatant disregard for basic human rights and willful attack on standards and principles of international law; and

WHEREAS, the failure to submit its national report is representative of a troubling pattern by the Trump administration, which also recently removed references to gender-based human rights abuses, including sexual violence and discrimination against women, minorities, and LGBTQ people, from its annual human rights reports of countries throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, while local governments lack the ability to change all laws and policies in question, City government must do all we can to safeguard human rights in this critical moment; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the City Council of the City of Chicago, call upon the federal government to submit its Universal Periodic Review report for the year 2025, and call for a review of the City's Commission of Human Relations work and processes to ensure that the City is doing everything within its power to effectively protect human rights.



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