

RESOLUTION

"Call for Hearings to Discuss the Constitutional Rights of All Chicagoans"

WHEREAS, the First, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution protect the rights to free speech and due process of law, which are fundamental to a functioning democracy and to the civil liberties of all Chicagoans, regardless of immigration status or political beliefs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago is committed to protecting free expression and civil liberties, providing sanctuary for vulnerable populations, and standing in opposition to censorship, political intimidation, and the suppression of dissent; and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration has demonstrated a fierce commitment to organizing authoritarian powers for President Trump by challenging our nation's system of checks and balances; and

WHEREAS, leaders of organizations and campaigns that challenge the political and administrative goals of the Trump administration have been regularly kidnapped and imprisoned without due process; and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration has cultivated an environment of fear and uncertainty in our communities through its errant disregard for the Constitution of the United States and for the rule of law; and

WHEREAS, these actions represent not only a possible violation of constitutional rights, but also a chilling precedent that threatens the freedom of all residents and citizens to speak, assemble, and participate in democratic discourse without fear of retribution; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago City Council has a responsibility to investigate and understand the extent to which local residents may have been or may be targeted or affected, and to reaffirm its commitment to protecting civil liberties; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, do hereby call on the Committee on Health and Human Relations to examine recent alleged violations of free speech and due process rights, discuss ways that the City can safeguard the rights of our residents, and to bring to light existing protections; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call on the Chair of the committee to invite affected individuals, civil liberties organizations, the Law Department, and any other applicable organizations, or departments to attend such hearing and assist in producing recommendations for how the City can best protect residents from political retaliation and governmental overreach in the future.



NAME
Alderman, Ward 33