

Committee on Health and Human Relations

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE CHICAGO COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS TO CONDUCT HEARINGS TO INVESTIGATE RISING ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES AND HATE INCIDENTS IN THE CITY OF CHICAGO

WHEREAS, The people of Chicago affirm their commitment to a city free from hatred, prejudice, and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, A significant and rising threat to the peace, security, wellbeing, and thriving of any community in our city is a threat to every community in our city; and

WHEREAS numerous agencies have indicated that there has been an increase in incidents of antisemitism in the last two years, and

WHEREAS, According to the Chicago Police Department's (CPD) Hate Crimes Dashboard, the number of hate crimes reported in the city dropped by 25.5% from 2023 to 2024; however, during this same period, anti-Jewish hate crimes rose by 58%; and

WHEREAS, Jewish Chicagoans comprise only 3% of the city's total population, yet anti-Jewish hate crimes accounted for 37.62% of all hate crimes reported in 2024; and

WHEREAS, a national antisemitic and white nationalist group distributed hundreds of hateful antisemitic fliers in Chicago, targeting cars and homes in communities with concentrations of Jewish residents, requiring the City Council to pass an anti-hate-littering ordinance; and

WHEREAS, Also in November 2024, the President of the Chicago Board of Education was forced to resign following the revelation of his antisemitic social media posts; and

WHEREAS, an Orthodox Jewish man was shot on his way to synagogue in the West Ridge neighborhood, resulting in hate crime and terrorism charges; and

WHEREAS, two Israeli embassy staffers, Yaron Lischinsky and Sarah Milgrim, were recently murdered outside the Capital Jewish Museum in DC at an event for young diplomats and young Jewish professionals and multiple people were injured in an attack on an Israeli hostage march in Boulder, CO; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has been exploiting legitimate fear of rising antisemitism to erode civil liberties and democratic norms being carried out in the name of protecting Jews; and

WHEREAS, in April 2025, more than 150 Chicago-area rabbis wrote a letter opposing that exploitation and affirming that Chicago's Jewish community deserves to be safe in a thriving, multiracial democracy; and

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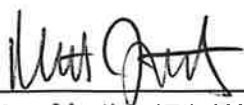
WHEREAS, Section 2-120-518 of the Chicago Municipal Code of the City of Chicago empowers the Chicago Commission on Human Relations (CCHR), the city's civil rights agency, to address patterns of bias and recommend preventative policy measures; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Chicago calls upon the CCHR Commissioner to invoke the agency's power under Section 2-120-518 of the Municipal Code to call a hearing or hearings to address the pattern of anti-Jewish hate crimes, and hate incidents, to receive evidence and hear testimony from victims, witnesses and professionals working to address and dismantle antisemitism , including the following organizations that represent the Chicago Jewish community--the Jewish United Fund, Anti-Defamation League, American Jewish Committee Chicago, the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs and Simon Wiesenthal Center; to invite all relevant state and county partners to participate and collaborate on solutions as needed; and to commence any and all such hearing or hearings within sixty (60) days of introduction of this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council calls on the CCHR to produce a report summarizing its findings and recommendations pursuant to such hearing or hearings within sixty (60) days of the conclusion of its final hearing, to make said report available to members of the public, and to present said report to the City Council Joint Committee on Public Safety and Health and Human Relations, and to issue progress reports regarding said findings and recommendations as part of its annual hate crimes and hate incidents report, as required under Section 2-120-518 of the Chicago Municipal Code, starting with its annual report due July, 2026.



Andre Vasquez, 40th Ward Alder



Matt Martin, 47th Ward Alder

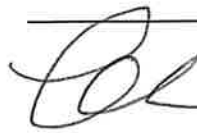
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Alderman, 3 Ward



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Alderman, 6 Ward

6th Ward Street

Alderman, 7 Ward

Alderman, 8 Ward

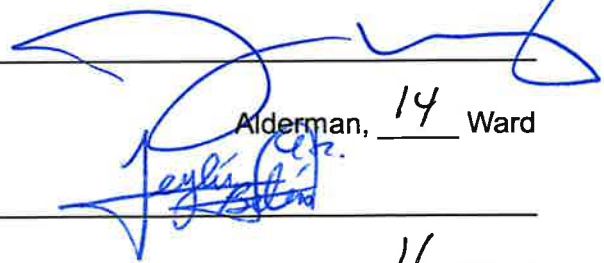
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Alderman, 13 Ward



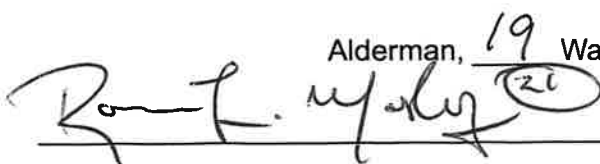
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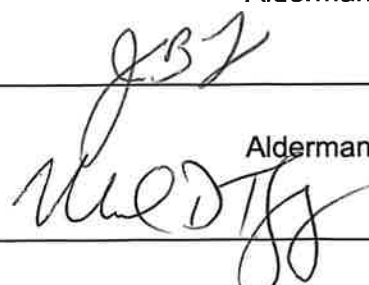
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Alderman, 22 Ward

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Alderman, 25 Ward

Alderman, 27 Ward



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Alderman, 43 Ward

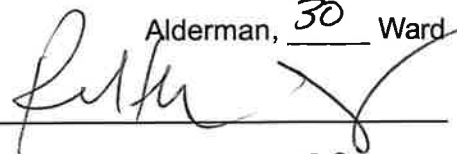
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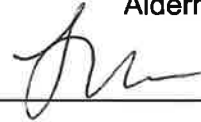
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