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**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A SUBJECT MATTER HEARING
ON WALGREENS STORE CLOSURES AND THE IMPACT ON
HEALTHCARE SERVICE DELIVERY IN UNDERSERVED
COMMUNITIES**

WHEREAS, The City Council and the government of the City of Chicago has a vested interest in the health and welfare of its residents; and

WHEREAS, Neighborhood pharmacies play a critical role in the delivery of healthcare services to the community; and

WHEREAS, Walgreens, a Chicagoland-based retail pharmacy chain with approximately 8,500 locations worldwide, in January 2025, announced the closure of five of its stores on the South and West sides of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, These five closures are in addition to the dozens of stores already closed throughout Chicago since 1995, with again the majority of these closures located on the South and West sides; and

WHEREAS, The elimination of retail pharmacies in already underserved communities will make it more difficult for residents to obtain needed healthcare services, as well as access other community benefits such as food, vaccination, retail, and photography services; and

WHEREAS, These closures will contribute to proliferation of pharmacy deserts on the South and West sides, exacerbating existing systemic inequities faced by underserved communities, lower the quality of life for neighborhood residents, and widen the wellness and life expectancy gaps currently plaguing these neighborhoods; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago gathered here in assembly this 19th Day of February, 2025 A.D., call for a subject matter hearing in the City Council Committee on Finance to discuss the neighborhood impact of pharmacy store closures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this hearing will highlight existing challenges faced by residents on the South and West sides when it comes to accessing pharmacy and related healthcare services.



Pat Dowell
Alderman, 3rd Ward

Chicago City Clerk-Council Div.
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