

## **R E S O L U T I O N**

**WHEREAS**, On Friday, October 5, 2024, all seven members of the Board of Education resigned, an unprecedented move that threatens to destabilize not only the transition to an elected Board, but also threatens to destabilize the fourth-largest school system in the country; and

**WHEREAS**, Recognizing the unprecedented nature of this mass resignation and the serious challenges facing Chicago Public Schools, a super-majority of City Council has called for a public hearing before any new appointments to ensure that our residents' voices are heard; and

**WHEREAS**, With the district facing a nearly \$1 billion deficit, federal COVID-relief funds expiring, and less than one month until voters will cast the first ever ballots for Board members, our City is faced with a critical choice for the future of our children - to be transparent and responsible, or return to the days of mismanagement that lead to the State legislature replacing the entire Board and establish the independent Chicago School Finance Authority to assume financial management of the district; and

**WHEREAS**, Recognizing the challenges facing our children, and the potential for ruinous consequences of ill-thought-out schemes like securing a short-term, high interest \$300,000,000 loan for operating expenses, our colleagues in the General Assembly have begun discussing the necessary "level of state oversight" and "additional guardrails" to ensure that the Board is acting in the best interests of students, including requiring City Council approval for appointments to the Board of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, The challenges facing our district are sobering - but can be met with qualified, competent leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, As the elected representatives of this City - and, for many of us, as parents ourselves - we must work together to ensure that the leadership of Chicago Public Schools is committed to stability and success for our district and our children; now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That we, the members of City Council, hereby call upon the former members of the Board of Education and any appointees to appear at a hearing before this body regarding the mass resignation of the Board of Education and the challenges facing Chicago Public Schools.