Heatth

RESOLUTION

Resolution to Restore Access to Gender-Affirming Care at Chicago Hospitals

WHEREAS, President Trump signed Executive Order 14187 on January 28th, 2025, which was blocked on February 19th, 2025 as the result of a lawsuit; and

WHEREAS, Lurie Children's Hospital ceased gender-affirming surgeries of all types as of February 7, 2025, in preemptive compliance with Executive Order 14187; and

WHEREAS, Lurie Children's Hospital has not restored access to gender-affirming care for trans minors, despite offering the same procedures to cisgender minors, potentially discriminating against these patients in violation of the Illinois Human Rights Act (ILHRA); and

WHEREAS, Rush Medical Center ceased gender-affirming care such as puberty blockers and hormone replacement therapy for new patients as of July 15, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Chicago City Council passed into law the "Bodily Autonomy Ordinance," which established Chicago as a sanctuary for reproductive and gender-affirming care; and

WHEREAS, these institutions are seemingly in defiance of the ILHRA and local laws; and

WHEREAS, gender-affirming care has been thoroughly researched and found to be both life-saving and provide resounding positive health impacts by the American Academy of Pediatrics as well as every major medical association; and

WHEREAS, denying essential medical care based on political pressure is an unethical and unconscionable dereliction of a hospital's duty, and these policies violate these institutions' responsibilities to patient well-being; and

WHEREAS, by preventing the medical professionals in their employ from following best medical practices and prioritizing patient wellbeing in patient care, these institutions are likely also forcing their medical personnel to violate state and local laws, medical ethics, and their professional and personal commitments to provide the best available patient care; and

WHEREAS, these institutions are prominent medical centers in the Midwest and are therefore establishing a region-wide tone and precedent for hospitals to limit our trans community's access to life-saving healthcare; and

WHEREAS, through their actions, they are eroding community trust, and operating against best medical practices; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Chicago City Council, condemn Lurie Children's Hospital and Rush Medical Center for their likely illegal and certainly unethical actions and the dangerous precedent that has been set by regional healthcare leaders; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call on Lurie Children's Hospital and Rush Medical Center to immediately restore life-saving gender-affirming surgeries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call on state and local officials, the Illinois Department of Human Rights, and the Chicago Commission on Human Relations to further investigate Lurie Children's Hospital and Rush Medical Center to identify any violations of local codes, and of the Illinois Human Rights Act, and present their findings to the public in the format most suitable for such findings.

essie Fuentes

Alderperson, Ward 26

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