R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, wealth has become increasingly concentrated among the highest-income households, while many working families have not experienced comparable economic gains; and

WHEREAS, Illinois has the eighth most regressive state and local tax system in the nation, resulting in a structure that disproportionately favors higher-income earners; and

WHEREAS, under this system, wealthy individuals pay a smaller share of their income in taxes than middle-class and working families who should a significantly heavier burden; and

WHEREAS, this disparity is especially evident in property taxation, where middle-class households contribute between four percent and seven percent of their taxable income toward property taxes, while millionaires contribute less than one percent; and

WHEREAS, asking those with the greatest financial resources to contribute a greater share toward investments in Chicago's neighborhoods reflects the principle that those most able to pay should contribute more to the public good; and

WHEREAS, Chicago's public schools and community safety initiatives require sustained, reliable sources of revenue to meet the needs of the City's children, families, and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago should pursue all lawful means to secure additional revenue that promotes fiscal stability while protecting working families and strengthening neighborhood investments; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Illinois Election Code, 10 ILCS 5/28-1 *et seq*., and the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/3.1-40-60, the corporate authorities of a municipality have the authority to submit a public question to the electors of the municipality by means of a referendum; and

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby intends to submit to the residents of the City of Chicago a public question of city-wide significance; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes it is in the best interest of the residents of Chicago to submit this question to the voters at the regularly scheduled general election to be held on November 3, 2026; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

SECTION 1. The foregoing recitals are found as fact and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2. The City Council of the City of Chicago hereby initiates and authorizes the following public question to be submitted to the voters of the entire City of Chicago at the regularly scheduled general election next occurring after the effective date of this resolution on November 3, 2026:

> Shall the City of Chicago, if authorized by law impose a 3% surcharge on individuals earning more than $1 million annually to fund Chicago's public schools and community

safety initiatives?

□ Yes
□ No

SECTION 3. The City Clerk of the City of Chicago shall certify the public question referenced herein to the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners in accordance with Article 28 of the Election Code.

SECTION 4. This resolution take effect upon its passage.