

ECTD

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, In the American political tradition, it is – or at least used to be – uncontroversial that the legislative power of any particular unit of government is solely vested in the applicable legislative branch, and executive officers – from a small-town mayor to the President – are not only bound by the valid exercise of legislative power, but also under a duty to faithfully execute the law as determined through the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, Since taking office a second time, President Trump has wreaked havoc and chaos across all aspects of our society, including by imposing arbitrary, haphazard, and illegal tariffs that seem to rise and fall on his whim; and

WHEREAS, Thanks to the courage of a local small, family-owned business, the Supreme Court recently ruled that these “Trump Tariffs” are unconstitutional and violate the separation of powers by attempting to use authority Congress did not grant, thereby usurping the legislative power from the legislative branch; and

WHEREAS, Apparently never one to take “no” for an answer, Trump is now threatening to act unilaterally yet again, imposing new “Trump Tariffs” that are sure to cause further chaos, uncertainty, higher prices, and – for the Trump Administration – continued losses in court; and

WHEREAS, A far better path forward – for business, for consumers – would be to respect the decision in *Learning Resources, Inc. v Trump* and issue full, automatic, and fast refunds of the money illegally and unconstitutionally taken from the American people; and

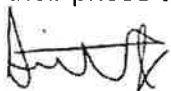
WHEREAS, However, these refunds should not – cannot – be simply another handout to corporations and big business; it should – must – be returned to the American people who have suffered through years of inflation followed by the Trump Administration’s chaotic, amateurish management of the economy; and

WHEREAS, Instead of usurping one branch’s power and ignoring the power of another, instead of offering specious legal arguments that fly in the face of basic high school civics – let alone constitutional precedent – Trump and the members of his Administration should fulfill their oaths to faithfully execute the law and to support and defend the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, In the words of one Justice in *Learning Resources*: “the continual and permanent accretion of power in one man ... is no recipe for a republic”; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the City Council of the City of Chicago, hereby call on the Trump Administration to fully, immediately, and efficiently issue refunds for the illegal and unconstitutional “Trump Tariffs” to all those affected; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we, the City Council of the City of Chicago, hereby call on companies that passed on the “Trump Tariffs” to their customers – whether directly or indirectly through increased prices – to commit to similarly passing on any refunded tariffs and returning their prices to “pre-Trump-Tariff” levels.



GILBERT VILLEGAS
Alderman, 36th Ward