

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Black neighborhoods in Chicago have endured decades of historic disinvestment, including the closure of schools, mental health clinics, after-school programs, and other essential community institutions, leaving many communities with fewer public resources and greater economic vulnerability; and

WHEREAS, the coordinated effort by Republican elected officials to transport migrants to Chicago without notice or adequate federal support sought to divide Chicagoans, and because generations of historic divestment had left many Black communities with fewer public resources and underutilized facilities, many newly arrived migrants were sheltered in those same neighborhoods, exacerbating longstanding inequities and placing additional demands on communities that had already borne decades of disinvestment; and

WHEREAS, the economic harms caused by the Donald Trump Administration's violent, militarized immigration enforcement, including the Midway Blitz operation under the command of Greg Bovino, have disproportionately burdened Black communities, where generations of historic divestment have left neighborhoods less able to absorb business disruptions, lost economic activity, diverted public resources, and the cascading costs of federal enforcement actions; and

WHEREAS, during military-style raids on Chicago's neighborhoods, hundreds of heavily armed ICE and CBP agents used helicopters, flashbang grenades, forced entries, and armed tactical teams, while many residents—including children and U.S. citizens—were illegally detained, leaving families and the surrounding businesses disrupted; and

WHEREAS, these violent, militarized enforcement operations harmed thousands of Chicagoans, including law enforcement officers, peaceful protesters, rapid responders, bystanders, members of the faith community injured while accompanying residents in Broadview, and the Chicagoan forcibly placed in a headlock during a West Side operation, imposing additional public safety, economic, and community costs on the City; and

WHEREAS, these violent federal operations disrupted families, local law enforcement, schools, workplaces, neighborhood businesses, and community institutions, undermining public trust and inflicting lasting harm on Black, Latino, immigrant, and other Chicago communities; and

WHEREAS, the Donald Trump Administration's ICE operations caused significant economic harm to the City of Chicago by reducing business activity and tax revenue while increasing public safety, emergency response, legal, and human service costs; and

WHEREAS, independent studies of comparable ICE operations have found millions of dollars in economic losses to local communities and governments, demonstrating that large-scale militarized ICE enforcement imposes substantial financial burdens on cities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago has a responsibility to seek accountability and pursue recovery of the financial costs imposed on its residents and taxpayers by these ICE operations; 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 pursue all lawful means to recover financial compensation from the federal government for the costs and economic harm caused by the Donald Trump administration's violent, militarized ICE operations, including the Midway Blitz operation led by Greg Bovino, to recover lost tax revenue, public safety response costs, and services provided to residents and families affected by those operations?

- ☐ 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.