



Office of the Chicago City
Clerk



R2012-171

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 2/15/2012

Sponsor(s): Fioretti, Bob (2)
And Others, And Others (0)

Type: Resolution

Title: Call for hearing(s) to examine Chicago schools' drug
education policy

Committee(s) Assignment: Committee on Education and Child Development

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, synthetic stimulants have become one of the biggest health risks facing our youth today; and

WHEREAS, it is very easy for the youth of Chicago to access synthetic stimulants; and

WHEREAS, the youth believe that synthetic stimulants are both safe and legal; and

WHEREAS, businesses in the City of Chicago have been identified as selling products typically labeled as “bath salts” which contain central nervous stimulants known as synthetic cathinones; and

WHEREAS, synthetic cathinones have been found to produce effects similar to amphetamine, cathinone, cocaine, MDEA, MDMA (ecstasy), methcathinone, and methamphetamine; and

WHEREAS, several synthetic cathinones are not yet categorized as illegal controlled substances under State or Federal Law; and

WHEREAS, on February 14, 2012, the Committee on Finance passed an ordinance amending Chapter 4-4 of the Municipal Code of Chicago by inserting a new Section 4-4-334 Synthetic Stimulants, to prohibit the sale of synthetic stimulants; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Poison Control Center has managed 237 synthetic cathinone exposures between November 1, 2010 and November 30, 2011, including two deaths; and

WHEREAS, additionally, businesses in the City of Chicago have been identified as selling products containing synthetic alternatives to the active ingredient of marijuana, or tetrahydrocannabinol (THC); and

WHEREAS, several synthetic cannabinoids are not yet categorized as illegal controlled substances under State or Federal Law; and

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2011, the Chicago City Council passed an ordinance amending Chapter 4-4 of the Municipal Code of Chicago by inserting a new Section 4-4-333 Synthetic Marijuana, to prohibit the sale of synthetic cannabinoids; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, the Illinois Poison Control Center received 70 synthetic cannabinoid related calls and fielded 53 similar calls during the first quarter of 2011; and

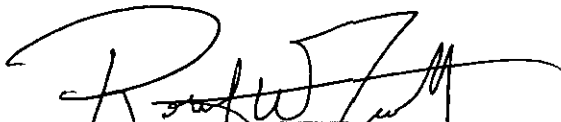
WHEREAS, products containing synthetic cathinones or synthetic cannabinoids are particularly enticing to children and young adults due to their availability at neighborhood stores and their marketing as being legal; and


WHEREAS, synthetic stimulants are an unfamiliar and unexpected danger to children’s health and safety; and


WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare of Chicago public school students to educate them on the dangers of using synthetic stimulants; **NOW, THEREFORE**;


BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Education and Child Development conduct hearings to examine Chicago schools' drug education policy; and

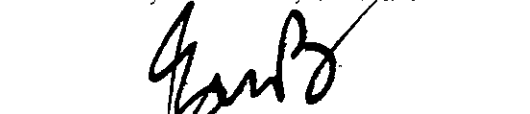
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that representatives from the Chicago Public Schools, the Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools, the Independent School League (Illinois), the Illinois Coalition of Non-Public Schools, the Illinois Attorney General's Office, the Illinois Position Control Center, and Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) shall appear before the Committee to testify on their plans to educate students and parents about the risk of using synthetic stimulants.



Bob Fioretti, Alderman, 2nd Ward



Pat Dowell, Alderman, 3rd Ward


Will Burns, Alderman, 4th Ward



James Balcer, Alderman, 11th Ward



Edward M. Burke, Alderman, 14th Ward

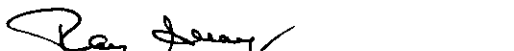

Jeann Thompson, Alderman, 16th Ward

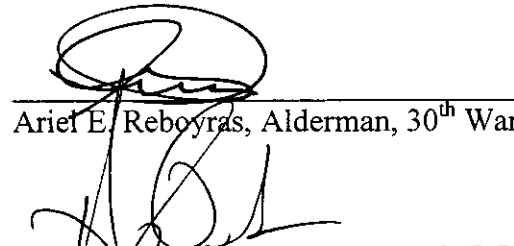

Latasha Thomas, Alderman, 17th Ward


Matt O'Shea, Alderman, 19th Ward


Roberto Maldonado, Alderman, 26th Ward


Ariel E. Reboyras, Alderman, 30th Ward


Ray Suarez, Alderman, 31st Ward


Harry Osterman, Alderman, 48th Ward