RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ALLOW HYBRID COMMITTEE MEETINGS

WHEREAS, During the emergency declaration as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City Council and other public bodies throughout the State were permitted to hold remote meetings without violating the Open Meetings Act; and

WHEREAS, Under these rules, the head of each public body had the discretion to determine whether it was practical or prudent to hold an in-person meeting; and

WHEREAS, As the City and State were relaxing certain COVID-19 public health restrictions, various public bodies continued to meet remotely, or adopted some form of hybrid model, where some members were physically present and others attended remotely; and

WHEREAS, Remote participation has not hindered the City Council's ability to conduct business or to provide a meaningful opportunity for the public to participate and engage the public body; on the contrary, remote participation and hybrid meetings allowed the City Council to conduct the people's business openly, efficiently, and transparently; and

WHEREAS, Currently, remote attendance is permitted under the Open Meetings Act only when full quorum of the public body is physically present, and any member participating remotely must be physically absent due to a personal illness or disability, an employment purpose or the business of the public body, or a family or other emergency; and

WHEREAS, The City Council wishes to express its desire that the Illinois General Assembly provide expanded opportunities for remote participation and hybrid meetings for its committees so that the City Council can continue to conduct the people's business in an open, efficient, and transparent manner; now, therefore

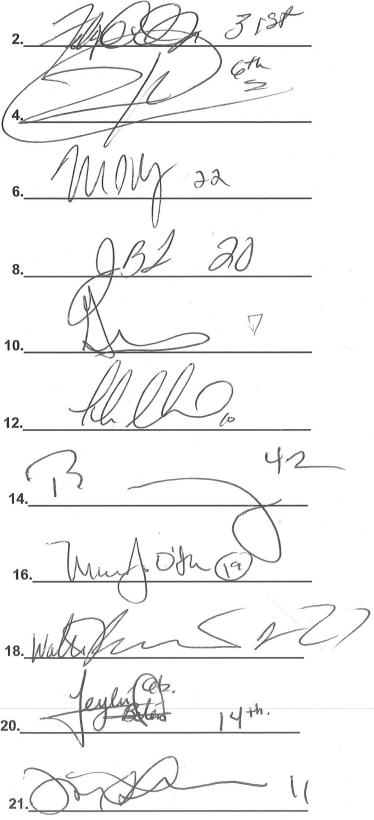
BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the City Council of the City of Chicago do hereby call upon the Illinois General Assembly to amend the Open Meetings Act to allow City Council Committees, and other subsidiary bodies of legislative bodies, to hold hybrid meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be sent to House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch, Senate President Don Harmon, and Governor JB Pritzker.

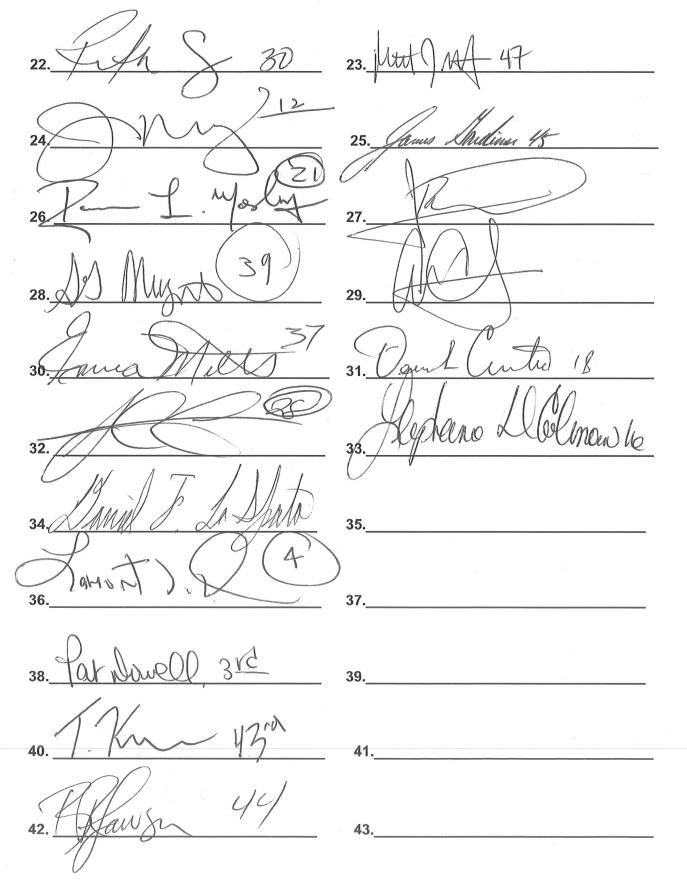
ANDRE VASQUEZ, JR. Alderman, 40th Ward

Committee on Economic, Capital and Technology Development





Committee on Economic, Capital and Technology Development



Committee on Economic, Capital and Technology Development

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