



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Cook County Building, Board Room, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois

New Items Agenda

Wednesday, March 14, 2018, 11:00 AM

18-2631

Sponsored by: RICHARD R. BOYKIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION**DECLARING A VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE IN THE COOK COUNTY ASSESSOR AND COUNTY BOARD PRESIDENT IN REGARD TO REGRESSIVITY IN THE PROPERTY TAX SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and Assessor Joe Berrios both were sworn in to their respective offices in 2010, and

WHEREAS, in the summer of 2017, the Chicago Tribune published a series outlining decades of regressivity in residential property assessments in Cook County, and

WHEREAS, in response to that article and a hearing of the County Board, the Assessor's Office and President's Office announced a study of the assessment system to be conducted by the Civic Consulting Alliance, and

WHEREAS, that study confirmed the Tribune's findings of a failure to accurately assess residential properties in Cook County, and

WHEREAS, the study further confirmed that Cook County's property tax assessment system is causing a wealth transfer from owners of lower-value homes to those of higher-value homes, and

WHEREAS, both President Preckwinkle and Assessor Berrios have indicated that the issues with the residential assessment system have existed for 40 years, yet those issues have persisted since they each took office, and

WHEREAS, the study by the Civic Consulting Alliance is simply the latest in a series of studies outlining issues in the assessment system, and

WHEREAS, the Assessor's Office has said repeatedly that homeowners can simply appeal their property taxes if they feel there's an issue, but the study found that the regressivity is even worse at the appellate level, and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board of Commissioners has no confidence in the ability of the current leadership's ability to reform the system, and

WHEREAS, the County Board ought to be included in the process and assist in finding an outside entity to reform the system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners that it ought to be updated regularly about the status of improving the Cook County property tax assessment system.