

Board of Commissioners of Cook County

Labor Committee

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

11:15 AM

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

Issued on: 9/10/2025

NOTICE AND AGENDA

There will be a meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County at the date, time and location listed above to consider the following:

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Authorization as a public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have registered to speak, with the Secretary, 24 hours in advance of the meeting. To register as a public speaker, go to the meeting details page for this meeting at https://cook-county.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx to find a registration link. Duly authorized public speakers may speak live from the County Board Room at 118 N. Clark Street, 5th Floor, Chicago, IL or be sent a link to virtually attend the meeting and will be called upon to deliver testimony at a time specified in the meeting agenda. Authorized public speakers who are not present during the specified time for public testimony will forfeit their allotted time to speak at the meeting. Public testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. After each virtual speaker has completed their statement, they will be removed from the meeting. Once removed, you will still be able to follow the proceedings for that day at:

https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings or in a viewing area at 69 W. Washington Street, 22nd Floor Conference Room F, Chicago, IL. Persons authorized to provide public testimony shall not use vulgar, abusive, or otherwise inappropriate language when addressing the Board; failure to act appropriately; failure to speak to an item that is germane to the meeting, or failure to adhere to the time requirements may result in expulsion from the meeting and/or disqualify the person from providing future testimony. Written comments will not be read aloud at the meeting, but will be posted on the meeting page and made a part of the meeting record.

25-3786

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 03/14/2024.

<u>25-3251</u>

Sponsored by: DONNA MILLER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, KEVIN B. MORRISON, MAGGIE TREVOR, JESSICA VÁSQUEZ, FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET GAINER, BILL LOWRY, DR. KISHA E. McCASKILL, STANLEY MOORE, MICHAEL SCOTT JR. and TARA S. STAMPS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO PASS H.B. 2550 THE PROTECT AMERICA'S WORKFORCE ACT

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2025, President Trump issued an executive order eliminating collective bargaining rights and union representation across the federal government; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 2550, the "Protect America's Workforce Act," is a bipartisan bill introduced by Rep. Jared Golden (D-ME) and Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) commands broad bipartisan support with over 200 co-sponsors advocating for the fundamental right of workers to organize; and

WHEREAS, this legislation is poised to nullify the Executive Order titled "Exclusions from Federal Labor-Management Relations Programs" which aimed to eliminate collective bargaining rights across multiple federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, the order targeted employees in the Departments of Defense, State, Veterans Affairs, Justice, and Energy, as well as certain employees in the Departments of Homeland Security, Treasury, Health and Human Services, Interior, and Agriculture impacting roughly 67% of the federal workforce; and

WHEREAS, the most effective strategy to counteract President Trump's aggressive and unconstitutional attack on the civil service, which lacks widespread congressional support, is to pass H.R. 2550; and

WHEREAS, throughout our history, unions have ensured workers got their fair share of this nation's prosperity, built our middle class, and are key to strengthening its future. We cannot have a government that undermines workers' rights; and

WHEREAS, over 70 percent of Americans and nearly 9 in 10 young people support unions and no one voted to erode the freedom to organize with colleagues for a better life; and

WHEREAS, the labor movement is 100 percent in support of this bill including the AFL-CIO, the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE), the National Postal Mail Handlers Union (NPMHU), the National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU)), and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU); and

WHEREAS, federal workers already face significant limitations in their labor rights. Unlike their counterparts in the private sector, they are prohibited by law from bargaining over wages, benefits, or job classifications and are barred from striking. Their collective bargaining rights are restricted solely to matters related to working conditions and notably, approximately one-third of unionized federal employees are U.S. military veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Protect America's Workforce Act upholds the core principle that a government serving the people must also honor the rights of those who serve within it;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners strongly urge the United States House of Representatives to pass H.R. 2550, the "Protect America's Workforce Act" in order to restore collective bargaining rights of federal workers across the nation; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to the Illinois' Congressional delegation, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Majority and Minority Leaders, to underscore the importance and urgency of passing this legislation to ensure our nation's prosperity and security.

Legislative History: 7/24/25 - Board of Commissioners - refer to the Labor Committee

Secretary

Lynne M. Surver

Chair: Anaya Vice-Chair: Stamps

Members: Aguilar, Degnen, Lowry, Miller, Moore, K. Morrison, Vásquez