



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY**  
**Cook County Building, Board Room, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

**New Items Agenda**

**Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 11:00 AM**

**Sixth Set**

17-0724

**Sponsored by:** JESÚS G. GARCÍA, LUIS ARROYO JR, BRIDGET GAINER and STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION****COOK COUNTY UNITY**

**WHEREAS**, Cook County is home to over one million immigrants from all over the world; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County has benefitted culturally, socially and economically from the diversity of its residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the national political climate has produced fear and anxiety among many Cook County residents, particularly among people of color, immigrants, Muslims, Jews, and members of the LGBTQ community; and

**WHEREAS**, health care providers and mental health experts have reported that frequently marginalized youth, LGBTQ and gender non-conforming youth, refugee/immigrant children and youth are experiencing significant distress as a result of the national discourse; and

**WHEREAS**, calls to mental health hot lines increased 200% in Illinois post-election with immigrants reporting anxiety and hopelessness due to fears of deportation for themselves or members of their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, racism, xenophobia, misogyny, homophobia, transphobia, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, and all other forms of hate have no place in Cook County; and

**WHEREAS**, resolution 07-R-240 declared Cook County a Fair and Equal County for Immigrants ensuring equal access to essential benefits and opportunities; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we reaffirm our commitment to being a Fair and Equal County for all immigrants, refugees, and their families; and will energetically oppose any efforts that conflict with those values or reverse critical protections to immigrants, refugees, and their families; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we will continue to honor and protect the rights of all residents, regardless of race, ethnicity, country of origin, religion, age, immigration status, criminal record, sexual orientation, and gender identity; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we will never waver on our commitment to ensuring women's rights in healthcare, in the workplace, in the home, and in the streets; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we remain deeply committed to religious freedom, and oppose any discriminatory treatment or persecution on the basis of faith; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we honor the rights of all individuals within the LGBTQ community to live without fear of discrimination or harassment; and we will support all of the progress we have made as a society in advancing LGBTQ rights; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, we will continue our commitment to address the over-incarceration of Black and Brown communities and reducing the number of individuals in the criminal justice, juvenile justice, and immigrant detention systems, while reinvesting the resulting savings to address acute education, healthcare, employment, housing, minority-owned small business development and environmental needs in the communities most affected; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we will continue to stand up for the needs of Cook County's low-income and working families, and will oppose efforts that jeopardize the well-being of these families; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we are committed to addressing the effects of environmental degradation and climate change, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we will oppose any efforts that compromise the safety or well-being of Cook County residents; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call on all Cook County residents to stand united in defense of our common values and each other's civil and human rights so that we can protect and expand upon that which makes this County great.