

**PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE TO FILE # 18-2631
(County Board Meeting New Items Agenda 3/14/2018)**

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

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

A RESOLUTION DECLARING A VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE IN THE COOK COUNTY ASSESSOR IN REGARDS TO REGRESSIVITY IN THE PROPERTY TAX SYSTEM

WHEREAS, Assessor Joe Berrios was sworn into office in 2010, and

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

WHEREAS, in response to that article and a hearing of the County Board, the Assessor's 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 Assessor Berrios indicated that the issues with the residential assessment system have existed for 40 years, yet those issues have persisted since he 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 regressive assessments are even worse at the appellate level, and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board of Commissioners has no confidence in the ability of the assessor's office'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.