



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

Human Relations Committee

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

2:00 PM

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

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 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.

23-3583

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 05/24/2023

[23-2007](#)

Sponsored by: MAGGIE TREVOR, KEVIN B. MORRISON and ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ACCESS TO GENDER AFFIRMING CARE

WHEREAS, gender affirming care is crucial for trans and gender diverse children and adults to thrive, grow, and live to their fullest potential; and

WHEREAS, gender affirming care encompasses a range of social, psychological, behavioral, and medical interventions designed to support and affirm an individual's gender identity when it conflicts with the gender they were assigned at birth; and

WHEREAS, gender affirming care has a great effect on the safety of trans and non-conforming children and adults as studies have shown a significant decrease in suicidal ideation when gender affirming care is provided; and

WHEREAS, decisions about gender-affirming care should be properly made without government intervention through shared decision-making between the patient, their family; and

WHEREAS, 29 of the leading medical groups including the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Nurses, The Endocrine Society and the American Medical Association recognize the medical necessity of gender affirming care; and

WHEREAS, as a population, transgender people are less likely to be insured than both the lesbian, gay, bisexual population and general population; and among those that are insured, 25% sought coverage for hormones in the past year and were denied and 55% of adults who sought coverage for gender affirming surgery in the past year were denied; and

WHEREAS, laws in states like Arizona, Utah, South Dakota, Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida have banned gender affirming care including effective interventions like puberty blockers, hormone therapy, and the use of preferred pronouns in schools; and

WHEREAS, these laws give no options for transgender youth to be respected, affirmed, and supported in their communities leading to greater instances of violence towards trans children and adults; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Cook County Board of Commissioners supports access to gender affirming care and advocating for the principles of equality, equity, and justice for the medical needs of the trans and gender diverse communities.

Legislative History : 4/27/23 - Board of Commissioners - refer to the Human Relations Committee

Legislative History : 5/24/23 - Human Relations Committee - recommend for deferral

Legislative History : 5/25/23 - Board of Commissioners - defer

[23-3023](#)

Sponsored by: MAGGIE TREVOR, KEVIN B. MORRISON and ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NON-CONFORMING GENDER EXPRESSION

WHEREAS, non-conforming gender expression and dress have been around since the beginning of human history; and

WHEREAS, gender norms are ever-changing and based on media trends, economics, society, and culture; and

WHEREAS, policing or prescribing non-conforming gender expression discriminates against people who do not fit in these norms and violates their freedom of expression; and

WHEREAS, legal enforcement of gender norms in the mid-20th Century led to raids on Gay and Lesbian bars and gathering spaces, leading to physical violence, sexual harassment and assault; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities of Bridgeview, Burbank, Justice, Lynwood, and Melrose Park still have laws on the books criminalizing non-conforming gender expression; and

WHEREAS, the state of Tennessee enacted SB 3 which criminalizes non-conforming gender expression, bans it from many private and all public areas, and categorizes it as solely “adult entertainment”; and

WHEREAS, since 2020 legislative bodies in states including Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Montana, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, and West Virginia have either proposed or enacted legislation that criminalizes or effectively bans gender non-conforming performance and expression; and

WHEREAS, the hateful and misinformed rhetoric that these laws stand for have resulted in violence, vandalism, and hate towards the LGBTQ community in Illinois and Cook County including local libraries and small businesses that create a welcoming space for drag events and expression; and

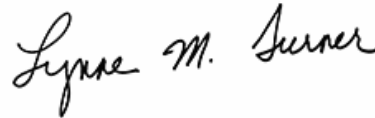
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Cook County Board of Commissioners affirms the right of all individuals to dress in a manner that may not adhere to societal gender norms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Cook County Board of Commissioners strongly condemns the legislation passed in Tennessee and proposed in Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Montana, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, and West Virginia that ban and criminalize gender expression; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Cook County Board of Commissioners strongly condemns the hateful, violent, and dangerous rhetoric that has been used to create false and hazardous narratives about the LGBTQ community, its leaders, and those who do not dress according to societal norms.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners hereby directs the Secretary of the Board to send a copy of this Resolution to Steven Landek - Mayor of Bridgeview, Dan Foy - Mayor of Burbank, Krzysztof Wasowicz - Mayor of Justice, Jada Curry - Mayor of Lynwood, Ronald Serpico - Mayor of Melrose Park, Katie Hobbs - Governor of Arizona, Sarah Huckabee Sanders - Governor of Arkansas, Ron DeSantis - Governor of Florida, Brad Little - Governor of Idaho, Kim Reynolds - Iowa, Andy Beshear - Governor of Kentucky, Greg Gianforte - Governor of Montana, Mike Parson - Governor of Missouri, Jim Pillen - Governor of Nebraska, Doug Burgum - Governor of North Dakota, Roy Cooper - Governor of North Carolina, Kevin Stitt - Governor of Oklahoma, Henry McMaster - Governor of South Carolina, Kristi Noem - Governor of South Dakota, Greg Abbott - Governor of Texas, and Jim Justice - Governor of West Virginia.

Legislative History : 5/25/23 - Board of Commissioners - refer to the Human Relations Committee



Secretary

Chair: K. Morrison

Vice-Chair: Vacant

Members: Anaya, Gordon, Miller, Quezada, Trevor