



**Board of Commissioners of Cook County
Board of Commissioners**

Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

9:00 AM

**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 submitted in writing, their name, address, subject matter, and organization (if any) to the Secretary 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Duly authorized public speakers shall 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 be germane to a specific item(s) on the meeting agenda, and the testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. 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.

18-1052

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 11/15/2017

[17-6208](#)

Sponsored by: JOHN A. FRITCHEY, LUIS ARROYO JR, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, EDWARD M. MOODY, STANLEY MOORE, SEAN M. MORRISON, DEBORAH SIMS, LARRY SUFFREDIN and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

REQUESTING TO PRESENT AN ADVISORY PUBLIC QUESTION VIA A COUNTYWIDE

REFERENDUM TO COOK COUNTY VOTERS ON WHETHER THE STATE OF ILLINOIS SHOULD LEGALIZE, REGULATE AND TAX RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA USE FOR ADULTS 21 AND OVER

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the Illinois Election Code, 10 ILCS 5/28-1, et seq., and the Counties Code, 55 ILCS 5/5-1005.5, the corporate authorities of a county have the authority to submit a public question to the electors of the county by means of a referendum; and

WHEREAS, despite spending more than \$1 Trillion over the last 40 years, the efforts of the “War on Drugs”, the health and social costs of drugs increase every year, drugs are no less available than before, and treatment is not available to the vast majority of people who need it; and

WHEREAS, existing evidence from other states and countries show there is no indication that decriminalization or legalization of marijuana leads to a measurable increase in its use; and

WHEREAS, eight states and Washington D.C. have already legalized the recreational use of marijuana; and

WHEREAS, marijuana-related arrests in every Cook County municipality, including Chicago, result in staggering costs to Cook County government by virtue of the necessary involvement of the County jail, Sheriff’s department, State’s Attorney, Clerk of the Court, judiciary, and often times, the Public Defender, annually costing Cook County taxpayers tens of millions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, most arrests for marijuana possession do not lead to trials or prison terms. Instead, a large number of these arrests are plea-bargained, continued without a finding, dismissed, or otherwise handled in a manner that places unnecessary burdens on already-limited criminal justice system resources; and

WHEREAS, as Illinois and Cook County continually face severe budget and financial constraints and lawmakers repeatedly face the undesirable choice of deciding between increasing taxes or substantial service cuts, or both, creating an intelligent, practical framework of cannabis legalization, regulation and taxation can help address a myriad of problems such as improved health and public safety, reduced criminal justice and jail costs, law enforcement efficacy, black market drug displacement as well as increased revenue for education and treatment protocols; and

WHEREAS, legalizing, regulating and taxing recreational marijuana use for adults 21 and over and would have an estimated revenue impact of \$350 to \$699 million at the state level and would also have a positive multi-million dollar impact for Cook County via sales tax proceeds and other public and private revenue streams; and

WHEREAS, a recent 2017 Gallup poll has shown that 64% of Americans are in favor of legalizing marijuana; and

WHEREAS, a recent 2017 poll conducted by the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute finds that two-thirds of Illinois voters, support or strongly support legalization of recreational marijuana if it is taxed and regulated like alcohol, and in Chicago, 74 percent of voters support or strongly support legalization of marijuana while in suburban Cook and the collar counties support or strong support is at 70 percent; and

WHEREAS, 55 ILCS 5/5-1005.5 states, “By a vote of the majority of the members of the county board, the board may authorize an advisory question of public policy to be placed on the ballot at the next regularly scheduled election in the county.”; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board of Commissioners seeks to place an advisory public question before the electorate via a referendum on the March 20, 2018, countywide ballot seeking to ask Cook County residents if they are in favor of legalizing, regulating and taxing recreational marijuana use for adults 21 and over in Illinois, as follows:

“Shall the State of Illinois legalize the cultivation, manufacture, distribution, testing, and sale of marijuana and marijuana products for recreational use by adults 21 and older subject to state regulation, taxation and local ordinance?”

Yes

No

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Cook County Board of Commissioners that this Board present the aforementioned question to the electorate via a countywide advisory referendum on the March 20, 2018 ballot;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cook County Clerk shall certify the public question referenced herein and notifies the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General of this request for action in accordance with Article 28 of the Election Code.

Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Legislative History : 11/15/17 - Board of Commissioners - refer to the Legislation and Intergovernmen

[17-6302](#)

Sponsored by: DENNIS DEER, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, LARRY SUFFREDIN, BRIDGET GAINER, LUIS ARROYO JR, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, EDWARD M. MOODY, DEBORAH SIMS, JOHN P. DALEY, SEAN M. MORRISON and PETER N. SILVESTRI, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

AN AMENDMENT TO PREVENT SEXUAL HARRASSMENT IN COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, Cook County has zero tolerance for sexual harassment in the workplace; and

WHEREAS, in recent weeks there has been an outpouring of complaints of sexual harassment within Illinois government and political activities; and

WHEREAS, inspired by the #MeToo social media campaign that encouraged individuals to raise awareness about sexual harassment, women in the Illinois Legislature created the #ILSayNoMore hashtag which encouraged individuals to share their experiences of sexual harassment within the State Capitol and Illinois politics ; and

WHEREAS, more than 200 people signed onto an open letter circulated by women involved in Illinois politics that called for “challenging every elected official, every candidate, and every participant in our democratic process who is culpable”; and

WHEREAS, sexual harassment thrives in silence, all stakeholders need to continually work to eliminate all forms of sexual harassment; and

WHEREAS, sexual harassment and abuse of power is toxic and unacceptable in the workplace and will not be tolerated; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is committed to providing a workplace that is free from sexual harassment; and

WHEREAS, all persons have a right to feel safe and work in an environment free from sexual harassment; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Cook County reinforces its policy of zero tolerance for sexual harassment and the Cook County Board of Commissioners encourages all of the separately elected Cook County offices to adopt a zero tolerance policy for sexual harassment within their own offices; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Cook County recognizes the rights of all employees to be treated with respect and dignity and is committed to providing a work environment free of sexual harassment for all of its employees.

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners, that Chapter 42 - Human Relations, Article II. - Human Rights, Section 42-34 - Commission on Human Rights. is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 42-31. - Definitions.

...

Religion means all aspects of religious observance and practice, as well as belief, or the actual identification with or perceived identification with a religion.

Sexual Harassment. The term “Sexual Harassment” shall mean unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual and physical conduct of a sexual nature. Sexual Harassment includes, but is not limited to:

1. Verbal harassment (lewd or suggestive remarks, sexual language, pranks, epithets, derogatory statements, jokes, threats, slurs and/or demands for dates);

2. Physical harassment (touching, patting, pinching or brushing against another’s body);

3. Visual harassment (posters, cartoons, gross or lewd gestures, calendars, pictures, drawings, greeting cards or leering);

4. Sexual innuendo and demands for sexual favors (unwelcome sexual statements or advances);

5. Sexual harassment includes any form of sexually oriented conduct regardless of whether it occurs face-to-face, in writing, on the telephone, by electronic mail, via the Internet, or by some indirect form of communication; or

6. Sexual harassment may involve individuals of the same or different gender and is prohibited whether directed toward men or women.

Sexual orientation means the status or expression, whether actual or perceived, of heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality.

...

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners, that Chapter 44 - Human Resources, Article II. - Personnel Policies. Section 44-58 - Sexual Harassment Training. is hereby established as follows:

Sec. 44-58. - Sexual Harassment Training.

a) Each official and employee of Cook County must complete, at least annually, beginning in 2018, a sexual harassment training program conducted by the Bureau of Human Resources. The sexual

harassment training program shall be overseen by the Department of Ethics and the Office of the Independent Inspector General.

b) The Bureau of Human Resources shall submit to the Board quarterly reports that summarizes sexual harassment training that was completed during the previous quarter, the number of participants in those training and lays out the plan for the sexual harassment training programs in the coming quarter.

c) A person who fills a vacancy in any position in the County, including elective and appointed positions, must complete his or her initial sexual harassment training within 30 days after the commencement of his or her office or employment.

d)) Sexual Harassment Training shall minimally include but not be limited to; definition of sexual harassment, different types of sexual harassment, harassment by a person in authority towards a subordinate, examples of workplace sexual harassment, steps to filing a complaint, what sexual harassment is not, hostile work environments.

...

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners, that Chapter 2 - Administration, Article VII. - Ethics, Division 3. - Lobbyists, Subdivision II.-Registration, Section 2-640. - Lobbyist Ethics Education Seminar is hereby amended as follows:

...

Sec. 2-640. - Lobbyist Ethics Education Seminar.

Each Lobbyist shall attend an online ethics education seminar offered on a regular basis by the Cook County Clerk and the Board of Ethics within 120 days of registering as a Lobbyist pursuant to Section 2-633. The seminar shall educate Persons as to their duties and responsibilities under this article. The seminar shall include a program of sexual harassment training in the context of lobbying activities and review pertinent provisions under Article II of the Cook County Code, the Cook County Human Rights Ordinance. The Clerk may partner with the Bureau of Human Resources or other applicable Department of Cook County to facilitate the provision of the sexual harassment training. For purposes of this section, the definition of "Sexual Harassment" includes, but is not limited to, the definitions set forth in the Cook County Human Rights Ordinance, Section 42-30 et. seq. of the Cook County Code.

Effective date: This ordinance shall be in effect immediately upon adoption.

Legislative History : 11/15/17 - Board of Commissioners - refer to the Legislation and Intergovernmen



Secretary

Chairman: Suffredin
Vice-Chairman: Fritchey
Members: Committee of the Whole