



**Board of Commissioners of Cook County
Minutes of the Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee**

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

9:30 AM

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

ATTENDANCE

Present: Suffredin, Fritchey, Arroyo, Boykin, Daley, Deer, Gainer, García, Goslin, Moody, Moore, Morrison, Schneider, Silvestri, Sims and Tobolski (16)

Absent: Butler (1)

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Chairman Suffredin asked the Secretary to the Board to call upon the registered public speakers, in accordance with Cook County Code.

1. George Blakemore

2. Mark Armstrong

[18-6386](#)

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 09/26/2018

A motion was made by Commissioner Daley, seconded by Commissioner Tobolski, to approve 18-6386. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Suffredin, Fritchey, Arroyo, Boykin, Daley, Deer, Gainer, García, Goslin, Moody, Moore, Morrison, Schneider, Silvestri, Sims and Tobolski (16)

Absent: Butler (1)

[18-6115](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, JOHN P. DALEY, LUIS ARROYO JR, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, JERRY BUTLER, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET GAINER, JESÚS G. GARCÍA, GREGG GOSLIN, EDWARD M. MOODY, STANLEY MOORE, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, SEAN M. MORRISON and TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, Cook County Board Of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE CURRENT UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AND ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S APPROVAL OF STERIGENICS' OPERATION AND PROTECTING SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY RESIDENTS FROM TOXIC AIR POLLUTION

WHEREAS, a recent federal report shows that some Cook County and DuPage County residents are exposed to “the country’s highest cancer risks from toxic air pollution;” and

WHEREAS, according to the report by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Sterigenics International Inc. (“Sterigenics”) is emitting elevated levels of a cancer-causing chemical called ethylene oxide in its Willowbrook, Illinois, facilities; and

WHEREAS, data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s 2014 National Air Toxins Assessment map shows that residents are exposed to elevated levels of ethylene oxide in and surrounding Willowbrook, including in the Cook County municipalities of Burr Ridge, Indian Head Park, Hinsdale, Willow Springs, Justice, Western Springs, La Grange, La Grange Park and Brookfield; and

WHEREAS, the current permit authorizing Sterigenics gives the United States Environmental Protection Agency the authority to declare the facility a threat to public health and seek a court order to immediately shut it down; and

WHEREAS, the current permit authorizing Sterigenics gives the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency the authority to declare the facility a threat to public health and seek a court order to immediately shut it down; and

WHEREAS, in response to this crisis, Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner stated: “This is not an emergency. This is not a public health immediate crisis;” and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned federal report states that ethylene oxide is “highly reactive, readily absorbed, and easily distributed in the human body” and is “carcinogenic to humans;” and

WHEREAS, the health of residents in Willowbrook and surrounding communities in Cook and DuPage counties must take immediate priority;

WHEREAS, the protection of citizens' air quality in Illinois must become a priority of the State and local governments; and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency must commence immediate air quality monitoring in Cook and Dupage Counties; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board does hereby call on the United States Environmental Protection Agency and Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner to immediately declare Sterigenics's Willowbrook facilities a threat to public health and seek an immediate court order to shut down the facilities until the company can prove that residents near the facilities are no longer at risk; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Cook County requests that the Office of the Cook County State's Attorney examine possible enforcement actions to protect the environment and health the residents of Cook County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a written copy of this resolution be sent to the United States Environmental Protection Agency the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner.

A motion was made by Commissioner Daley, seconded by Commissioner Tobolski, to recommend for approval 18-6115. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Suffredin, Fritchey, Arroyo, Boykin, Daley, Deer, Gainer, García, Goslin, Moody, Moore, Morrison, Schneider, Silvestri, Sims and Tobolski (16)

Absent: Butler (1)

[18-6109](#)

Sponsored by: RICHARD R. BOYKIN and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board Of Commissioners

PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

AMENDING THE PROHIBITIONS ON SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners, that Chapter 54 Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations, Article V, Section 54-305 of the Cook County Code is hereby amended as Follows:

Sec. 54-305. Prohibitions on sale or distribution of tobacco products.

(a) *Underage tobacco sales.*

(1) No retailer may sell or distribute tobacco products to any person under ~~18~~ 21 years of age.

(2) Each retailer shall request and examine the photographic identification of any person purchasing tobacco products so as to verify that the purchaser is ~~over 18 years of age~~ 21 years of age or older. No such verification is required for any person who appears without reasonable doubt to be over the age of 27.

Effective date: This ordinance shall be in effect June 1, 2019.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boykin, seconded by Commissioner Tobolski, to recommend for deferral 18-6109. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Suffredin, Fritchey, Arroyo, Boykin, Daley, Deer, Gainer, García, Goslin, Moody, Moore, Morrison, Schneider, Silvestri, Sims and Tobolski (16)

Absent: Butler (1)

[18-5880](#)

Sponsored by: TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, SEAN M. MORRISON, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, GREGG GOSLIN and JOHN A. FRITCHEY, Cook County Board Of Commissioners

PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

REQUIRING A TWO THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE OF THE BOARD TO ENACT ANY NEW OR ADDITIONAL TAX IN COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, multiple cities as well as states have either enacted or considered a supermajority requirement for tax increases as it provides residents with another level of protection from unpopular taxes, and

WHEREAS, taxpayers expect reasonable limits, like a 2/3 majority vote requirement for tax increases in order to protect them from controversial votes being used to raise or create new taxes without broad public support, and

WHEREAS, the burden of new and increased taxes that falls on the shoulders of Cook County residents should not be left to a simple majority vote, and

WHEREAS, the process of both increasing taxes and creating new taxes should be agreed upon by a large majority of those who will be effected by them, and

WHEREAS, the board should establish the requirement that all new taxes and new tax increases can only be enacted by a two third majority vote from the Board of Commissioners.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners that Chapter 2, Sec. 105 (f) is hereby amended as follows:

(f) Majority votes. Except as otherwise provided in these rules, and except for questions for which a higher majority is required by law, all questions shall be determined by a majority vote of those Commissioners entitled to vote. Any question which enacts a new form of taxation, or increase in taxation, shall require a two thirds majority vote of the board in order to pass. A vote of “present shall not be counted in determining the number of Commissioners voting on a question

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Schneider, seconded by Commissioner Boykin, to recommend for deferral 18-5880. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Suffredin, Fritchey, Arroyo, Boykin, Daley, Deer, Gainer, García, Goslin, Moody, Moore, Morrison, Schneider, Silvestri, Sims and Tobolski (16)

Absent: Butler (1)

ADJOURNMENT


A motion was made by Commissioner Daley, seconded by Commissioner Sims, that this was adjourn the meeting.. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Suffredin, Fritchey, Arroyo, Boykin, Daley, Deer, Gainer, García, Goslin, Moody, Moore, Morrison, Schneider, Silvestri, Sims and Tobolski (16)

Absent: Butler (1)

Respectfully submitted,


Chairman


Secretary

A video recording of this meeting is available at <https://cook-county.legistar.com>.