



# Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street  
Chicago, IL

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 16-2278, **Version:** 1

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### PROPOSED RESOLUTION

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. QUENTIN YOUNG

**WHEREAS**, almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, has called a champion of civil rights and public health, Dr. Quentin Young from our midst; and

**WHEREAS**, Quentin Young, the son of immigrants, grew up on the South Side of Chicago and graduated from Hyde Park High School; and

**WHEREAS**, Quentin Young received a bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago in 1944, despite his studies being interrupted by his Army service during World War II. In 1947 Dr. Young received his medical degree from Northwestern University; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Young began his medical training at Cook County Hospital before leaving for Michael Reese Hospital in 1952; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Quentin Young eventually returned to Cook County Hospital as the "Chairman of Medicine" in 1972, a role he retained until 1981. There he worked tirelessly to improve the County's public healthcare system and its ability to help the poor and underserved; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to leadership positions within Cook County Dr. Young served as President of the Chicago Board of Health and the American Public Health Association, and he co-founded the Health and Medicine Policy Research Group; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Young was also busy agitating and fighting for social change. He volunteered to register black voters during Mississippi's Freedom Summer in 1964; and marched from Selma, Alabama to Montgomery, Alabama in 1965; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Young provided medical care to Martin Luther King Jr. during his stops in Chicago, as well as to campaign volunteers, civil rights workers, and anti-war protesters as founder of the Medical Committee for Human Rights; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Young is survived by two sons: Michael and Ethan; three daughters: Nancy, Polly, and Barbara; and two stepchildren: William and Karen Weaver. His wife, Ruth, passed away in 2007.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, do extend their deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family as well as to the many friends and loved ones of Dr. Quentin Young; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be tendered to the loved ones of Dr. Quentin Young as a means of communicating our deep respect for Dr. Young's fight for civil rights for all, and his contributions to the Cook County public healthcare system.