

RESOLUTION

**“Call for Governor Pritzker and the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) to Provide
Utility Bill Relief and Preserve Access During Time of Economic Instability”**

WHEREAS, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides critical support to thousands of households across the City of Chicago and the State of Illinois, helping families meet basic nutritional needs and maintain economic stability; and

WHEREAS, any reduction in SNAP benefits threatens to exacerbate food insecurity and force Chicago residents and families to make untenable choices between feeding their loved ones and paying essential household expenses, including utility bills; and

WHEREAS, the loss of this vital income support, combined with the continued imposition of utility disconnections, late fees, and penalties, will deepen inequities and undermine the health and well-being of vulnerable communities across the city and state; and

WHEREAS, these harms are compounded by the escalation of federal immigration enforcement actions that have sown fear among immigrant families, deterred them from accessing essential services, and destabilized entire neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, under Illinois law, the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) possesses the authority to exercise emergency regulatory powers to protect public welfare and ensure the provision of essential services during times of crisis; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago urges the Governor of the State of Illinois to formally direct and authorize the Illinois Commerce Commission to exercise such powers to safeguard all Illinois residents and businesses for so long as SNAP benefits remain unavailable and federal immigration enforcement continues to create humanitarian and economic distress; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Chicago hereby calls upon the Governor to direct the Illinois Commerce Commission to:

1. Order all Illinois gas, electric distribution, water, and sewer utilities to immediately cease disconnections for non-payment, suspend the issuance of disconnection notices, and halt the imposition of late payment fees or penalties on an interim basis;
2. Apply this moratorium universally—to all customer classes, including residential, commercial, and industrial customers—to stabilize households and preserve economic continuity; and
3. Adopt temporary, flexible credit and collection procedures to ensure that customers remain connected to essential utility services when the emergency status ends.

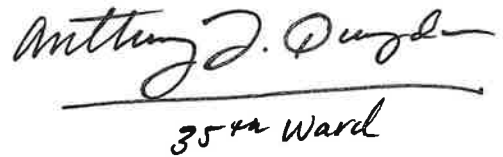
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Chicago stands ready to partner with the State of Illinois to communicate these protections to residents and to assist in their implementation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk of Chicago shall transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Governor of the State of Illinois, the Chair of the Illinois Commerce Commission, and the Illinois General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that through this action, the City Council reaffirms its commitment to ensuring that no household in Illinois—regardless of income, immigration status, or place of residence—loses access to essential services during this period of economic hardship and federal retrenchment.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large loop followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

Rossana Rodriguez Sanchez
Aldersperson, 33rd Ward

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anthony J. Dugan" in a cursive style, with "35th Ward" written below it.