

**City of Chicago Resolution Adopting
the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**

February 11, 2009

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago has demonstrated a sustained commitment toward ensuring the realization of human rights for all, including rights for women, laborers, and the homeless; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago has high aspirations and standards for its children and families and is constantly seeking ways to improve their lives and ensure an environment that protects children's health; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago is one of only two U.S. cities distinguished as a UNICEF Child Friendly City; and

WHEREAS, The Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on November 20, 1989 and became effective as an international treaty on September 2, 1990; and

WHEREAS, The Convention on the Rights of the Child is the only international human rights treaty to recognize the vital role of the family and the parent child relationship; and

WHEREAS, the United States and Somalia are the only two countries that have not ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child enhances Chicago's stature as a municipal leader in promoting the care and well-being of children; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by the City Council is consistent with Chicago's past support of securing fundamental rights for the most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child affirms Chicago's commitment to protect children and promote their rights; and

WHEREAS, the Convention would provide a single, comprehensive framework within which the diverse arms of the Chicago city government can assess and address, in a consistent manner, the rights and protections of our children; now, therefore

IT IS RESOLVED, that the Mayor and members of the City Council of Chicago, gathered here on the 11th day of February, 2009 A.D., do hereby affirm their support of the Convention on the Rights of the Child; and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and members of the City Council of Chicago will advance policies and practices that are in harmony with the principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in all city agencies and organizations that address issues directly affecting the City's children.