



Tom Barrett
Mayor

Bevan K. Baker, FACHE
Commissioner of Health

Health Department Administration

Frank P. Zeidler Municipal Building, 841 North Broadway, 3rd Floor, Milwaukee, WI 53202-3653 phone (414) 286-3521 fax (414) 286-5990
web site: www.milwaukee.gov/health

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

May 5, 2011

Alderman Nik Kovac, 3rd District
Milwaukee Common Council
200 E. Wells Street
Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Kovac:

The City of Milwaukee Health Department supports passage of Milwaukee Code of Ordinance (MCO 78-6.5) Proposed Substitute A related to keeping chickens in the City of Milwaukee in concurrence with the public health requirements provided by this department. The substitute ordinance is consistent with establishing sustainable urban agricultural practices similar to other cities across the nation and does not appear to create substantial nuisance or public health concerns through its enactment.

The permit requirement ensures that the number of birds, location of enclosure and maintenance of sanitary conditions are compatible with urban settings. Furthermore, implementation should not create a significant burden in terms of additional field inspections or enforcement staff for the Neighborhood Services or Health Departments.

Sincerely,

Bevan K. Baker, FACHE
Commissioner of Health