



**City of Milwaukee**  
**Text File**  
**Resolution**

200 E. Wells Street  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
53202

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**Introduced:** 5/8/2018

**File Number:** 180185

**Status:** Passed

**Version:** 1

**Sponsors:** Ald. Donovan and Ald. Borkowski

..Number

180185

..Version

SUBSTITUTE 1

..Reference

160538

..Sponsor

ALD. DONOVAN, BORKOWSKI

..Title

Substitute resolution directing the Department of Administration - Intergovernmental Relations Division to seek introduction and passage of State legislation relating to the appointment of the executive secretary of the board of fire and police commissioners in a city of the 1st class.

..Analysis

This resolution directs the Department of Administration - Intergovernmental Affairs Division to seek introduction and passage of State legislation to amend ss. 62.50 and 62.51, Wis. Stats., to provide that the executive secretary of the board of fire and police commissioners in a city of the 1st class is appointed by the board (rather than by the mayor), subject to confirmation by the common council.

..Body

Whereas, The Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission was created in 1885 to provide a public safety oversight body that was responsive to the community and that shielded police and fire services from political influences; and

Whereas, Prior to creation of the Fire and Police Commission, the fire and police chiefs were appointed by the Mayor, thereby making these positions likely candidates for political patronage; and

Whereas, After the Commission was created, the chiefs were appointed by the citizens serving on the Fire and Police Commission; and

Whereas, For over 100 years (1885 - 1988), the Fire and Police Commission also appointed its executive secretary (a/k/a executive director), helping to keep that position out of the political realm as well; and

Whereas, In 1988, a change in State law authorized the mayor of a 1st class city to appoint the

executive secretary of the fire and police commission, thereby interjecting politics in the appointment process; and

Whereas, Because of this change in State law, Milwaukee is the only city in Wisconsin where the lead staff person of the fire and police commission is appointed by the mayor; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, that the Department of Administration - Intergovernmental Affairs Division is directed to seek introduction and passage of State legislation to amend ss. 62.50 and 62.51, Wis. Stats., such that the executive secretary of the board of fire and police commissioners in a city of the 1st class is appointed by the board (rather than by the mayor), subject to confirmation by the common council; and, be it

Further Resolved, That File Number 160538 is amended by inserting the following item in the document attached to the file and identified as "2017-2018 State Legislative Package Proposals":

Local Control and Flexibility    Common Council    Amend Wis. Stat. §§62.50 and 62.51 to provide that the executive secretary of the board of fire and police commissioners in a city of the 1st class is appointed by the board (rather than by the mayor), subject to confirmation by the common council.

..Requestor

..Drafter

LRB171268-2

Jeff Osterman

May 21, 2018