



Legislation Text

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181911 SUBSTITUTE 1

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Substitute resolution relating to the creation of a 53206 Task Force.

This resolution creates a 53206 Task Force to assess media and academic reports singling out the 53206 ZIP code area ("53206") in a negative light, identify barriers to economic, health and social equity for residents of 53206, and make recommendations for targeting City funding, programming, policies and legislation to exert a meaningful, concentrated impact on the lives of residents of 53206.

The 53206 Task Force shall be comprised of the following 11 members:

1. Three residents of the 53206 ZIP code area ("53206"), one each to be appointed by the council members representing the 6th, 7th and 15th aldermanic districts.
2. One member appointed by the Mayor.
3. The Health Commissioner, or his or her designee.
4. One Youth Council member appointed by the Common Council President.
5. One member with experience in supporting re-entry of individuals upon release from incarceration, to be appointed by the Common Council President.
6. One member with experience in public education, to be appointed by the Common Council President.
7. One member with experience in workforce development, to be appointed by the Common Council President.
8. One member with research and academic experience and credentials relevant to the tasks of the 53206 Task Force, to be appointed by the Common Council President.
9. The director of a community organization with activities in 53206, or his or her designee, to be appointed by the Common Council President.

Whereas, Milwaukee's African-American residents encounter higher rates of poverty, incarceration, unemployment and lack of access to healthcare, education and transportation, than Milwaukee's non-African-American residents; and

Whereas, While these disparities exist throughout Milwaukee, they are particularly pronounced with respect to the residents of Milwaukee's 53206 ZIP code area ("53206"), the residents of which are approximately 95% African-American:

1. Approximately 42% of 53206 residents live below the federal poverty level, compared to 27% of Milwaukee residents overall.
2. Approximately 28% of 53206 residents lack high school diplomas, compared to 17% of Milwaukee residents overall.

3. The unemployment rate in 53206 is 22%, compared to 4% in the Milwaukee area overall.

; and

Whereas, Media and academic reports have repeatedly singled out 53206 as being the worst place in America for African-Americans and as having the highest rate of incarceration of African-American men in the United States; and

Whereas, These disparities form barriers to 53206 residents in achieving economic, health and social equity; and

Whereas, City-provided resources and services can be significant factors in lowering barriers to economic, health and social equity for Milwaukee residents; and

Whereas, While many City programs seek to address poverty, incarceration, unemployment, healthcare and education in Milwaukee, programs and funding that target a limited geographic area like a single ZIP code area would focus funding and resources in an area of greatest need; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, that a 53206 Task Force is created consisting of:

1. Three residents of the 53206 ZIP code area ("53206"), one each to be appointed by the council members representing the 6th, 7th and 15th aldermanic districts.
2. One member appointed by the Mayor.
3. The Health Commissioner, or his or her designee.
4. One Youth Council member appointed by the Common Council President.
5. One member with experience in supporting re-entry of individuals upon release from incarceration, to be appointed by the Common Council President.
6. One member with experience in public education, to be appointed by the Common Council President.
7. One member with experience in workforce development, to be appointed by the Common Council President.
8. One member with research and academic experience and credentials relevant to the tasks of the 53206 Task Force, to be appointed by the Common Council President.
9. The director of a community organization with activities in 53206, or his or her designee, to be appointed by the Common Council President.

; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the members of the 53206 Task Force shall appoint the chair of the 53206 Task Force; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the 53206 Task Force is charged with assessing media and academic reports singling out 53206 in a negative light; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the 53206 Task Force is charged with identifying barriers to economic, health and social equity for residents of 53206; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the 53206 Task Force shall identify recommendations for targeting City funding, programming, policies and legislation specific to 53206 to exert a meaningful, concentrated impact on the lives of 53206 residents; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the 53206 Task Force shall submit a report to the Common Council of its findings and recommendations no later than 90 days after passage of this resolution; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the City Clerk's Office shall provide staffing support to the 53206 Task Force; and, be it

Further Resolved, That all City departments are directed to support and cooperate with the work of the 53206 Task Force.

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Dana J. Zelazny
June 18, 2019