



CITY OF CHICAGO



Lori E. Lightfoot, Mayor

Board of Health

Carolyn C. Lopez, M.D.
President

DePaul Center, 2nd Fl.
333 South State Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604
(312) 744-2700
boardofhealth@cityofchicago.org

Members:

Juan M. Calderon
Adele Joy Cobbs, M.D.
Melanie Dreher, RN, PhD.
Caswell A. Evans, Jr., DDS, MPH
Victor M. Gonzalez
Steven Rothschild, M.D.
Horace E. Smith, M.D.
Joseph B. Starshak

Substitute Resolution on Migration and Climate Change

Chicago Board of Health

March 17, 2021

WHEREAS the negative health effects of climate change are well documented and noted to have the greatest impact on already vulnerable communities; and

WHEREAS the AMA and other medical specialties societies as well as other professional organizations have statements supporting the science behind climate change; and

WHEREAS articles have appeared in news media suggesting climate change is a factor contributing to migration to the southern border of the United States; and

WHEREAS the website of the United States Customs and Border Patrol has a posting referring to a presentation by Commissioner McAleenan that describes the changing population of emigrants to the southern border of the United States and cites crop failure and draught as a major driver of migration; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Chicago Board of Health acknowledges that climate change is a significant driver of emigration to the southern border of the United States; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Chicago Board of Health strongly supports the status of Chicago as a sanctuary city that honors its kinship with those who endure the immeasurable hardship of migration from Central America; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Chicago Board of Health strongly supports robust action taken by the Chicago Department of Public Health to address the climate change crisis; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Chicago Board of Health encourages its own members to share with their constituencies the relationship between climate change and migration; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Chicago Board of Health strongly supports efforts undertaken by the Mayor and Chicago City Council to provide comprehensive and dignity-preserving support to migrants fleeing devastation and coming to Chicago.