EXECUTIVE ORDER 86-3

1986 SEP 17 PM 9:45

WHEREAS, an individual's right to vote is a fundamental right, essential to the operation of a democratic society; and

WHEREAS, there exist in the City of Chicago tens of thousands of individuals eligible to vote who have not registered either because they are unaware of the process necessary to become registered, or because they are unable to take the steps necessary to become registered; and

WHEREAS, municipal government has a duty to assist in every possible way to make registration widely and easily available to its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois General Assembly has demonstrated its policy in favor of making voter registration readily available to all citizens by enacting legislation providing for the swearing in of deputy registrars who may accept the registration of any qualified resident of the election jurisdiction at any time and any place, except during the 35 days preceding an election; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago counts among its employees numerous individuals who are qualified under state law to be sworn in as deputy registrars; and

WHEREAS, the City is in a favorable position to assist its citizens in registering to vote because it conducts a variety of programs where employees of the City come in contact with unregistered citizens eligible to vote.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HAROLD WASHINGTON, Mayor of the City of Chicago, hereby declare and order as follows:

1. That all City of Chicago departments, offices and agencies shall cooperate with the Board of Election Commissioners and all persons duly appointed by that body to serve as deputy registrars in order to ensure that citizens desiring to become registered to vote can do so wherever the City conducts programs open to the public.

2. That any City of Chicago employee, except sworn personnel in the police and fire departments, who is qualified to be a deputy registrar because of membership in one of the classes of persons specified by the Illinois General Assembly as set forth more fully below, who desires to volunteer his or her time and services as a deputy registrar may do so on the City's premises and during working hours to the extent that such activities do not interfere with the employee's regular job duties.

Those persons who are eligible to become deputy registrars under Ill. Rev. Stat. ch. 46 ¶6-50.2 include:

a. The chief librarian, or a qualified person designated by the chief librarian, of any public library situated within the election jurisdiction, who may accept the registrations of any qualified resident of the election jurisdiction, at such library.

b. The principal, or a qualified person designated by the principal, of any high school or vocational school situated within the election jurisdiction, who may accept the registrations of any resident of the election jurisdiction, at such school.

c. The president, or a qualified person designated by the president, of any university, college, community college, academy or other institution of learning situated within the election jurisdiction, who may accept the registrations of any resident of the election jurisdiction, at such university, college, community college, academy or institution.

d. A duly elected or appointed official of a bona fide labor organization, or a reasonable number of qualified members designated by such official, who may accept the registrations of any qualified resident of the election jurisdiction.

e. A duly elected or appointed official of a bona fide State civic organization, as defined and determined by rule of the State Board of Elections, or a reasonable number of qualified members designated by such official, who may accept the registration of any qualified resident of the election jurisdiction.

3. That any employee who becomes a deputy registrar and wishes to register voters during work hours shall so inform his or her supervisor. All heads and supervisory personnel of city departments, offices and agencies shall make all reasonable

efforts to facilitate voter registration by the deputy registrars under their supervision and provide necessary assistance to ensure that such efforts may be undertaken without interfering with their regular work duties.

4. That in each department or work area where an employee who is a deputy registrar is employed, a sign shall be posted informing the public of that fact. The sign shall contain the name of the employee to contact for assistance in registering to vote.

5. The directors, commissioners and executive officers of the Chicago Board of Education, Community College District No. 508, the Chicago Housing Authority, the Chicago Public Library and the Chicago Park District are urged to similarly encourage and facilitate voter registration activities by their employees and in their facilities.

Harold Washington
HAROLD WASHINGTON
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

DATED: _____

RECEIVED AND FILED: _____, 1986.

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WALTER S. KOZUBOWSKI, City Clerk