



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 2022-0200, **Version:** 1

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### Title

RESOLUTION HONORING THE RIGHTS OF VICTIMS, AFFIRMING A VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE IN COOK COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY KIM FOXX, CALLING ON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY KIM FOXX TO RESIGN IN ORDER TO HELP RESTORE THE PUBLIC'S CONFIDENCE IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM, AND CALLING UPON OTHER ELECTED BODIES TO APPROVE SIMILAR RESOLUTIONS.

### Body

WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the Village of Orland Park is the Village's highest responsibility; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is experiencing life-changing and life-threatening crime with unprecedented homicidal activities putting the general public at risk of hurt, harm and danger. The escalating crime wave includes, unsolved murders, shootings, killings of children and youth, and criminal activities which are of such a nature that an extreme response of extra help and support is necessary; and

WHEREAS, the vitality of our community depends on how safe we keep our homes, neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces because crime and fear of crime diminish the quality of life for all; and

WHEREAS, crime and fear of crime destroy our trust in others and in institutions, threatening the community's health and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of people in Cook County are victims of crime every year; and

WHEREAS, some victims endure horrific acts of violence, some have personal possessions damaged or stolen, and others are defrauded or exploited financially; and

WHEREAS, whatever the crime, many victims lose something that can never be fully recovered: a sense of trust and safety; and

WHEREAS, many of these victims are twice victimized: once by a criminal and once by a criminal justice system that increasingly prioritizes criminals over the safety of law-abiding citizens; and

WHEREAS, Cook County saw more gun-related homicides in 2021 than in any other year on record; and

WHEREAS, Cook County's 1,002 gun-related homicides was 121 higher than the previous record from 2020 and almost twice as many as the total from 2019; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, 86 homicides were recorded with victims under the age of 18 and of those, 12 were under the age of 10; and

WHEREAS, criminals should be held accountable for their actions; and

WHEREAS, a *Chicago Tribune* analysis found that during Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx's first three years as the county's top prosecutor, her office dropped all charges against 29.9% of felony defendants, a dramatic increase over her predecessor; and

WHEREAS, the *Chicago Tribune* analysis also found that despite dropping more felony charges than her predecessor, of the felony cases that have been concluded, the Cook County State's Attorney's Office under prior State's Attorney Anita Alvarez won convictions in 75% of cases during the three years of Ms. Alvarez's term in office, higher than the conviction rate achieved by Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx, which was just 66% in the first three years of her term; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois criminal code compiles Illinois' criminal law including penalties that may be imposed for criminal offenses including weapons violations; and

WHEREAS, having an abundance of criminal laws in place is inadequate if these laws will not be prosecuted; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County criminal justice system's soft on crime approach only produces more violent crime and more victims; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Village President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Orland Park, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois, as follows:

## SECTION 1

The above recitals are incorporated by reference into this Section 1 and made a part hereof as though fully set forth herein.

## SECTION 2

The Village President and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Orland Park resolve to honor the rights of victims of crimes.

## SECTION 3

The Village President and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Orland Park further resolve to support the prosecution of all crimes, including gun related crimes, and call for the State's Attorney to ensure that residents and businesses of Cook County are kept safe by holding violent offenders accountable and enforcing the maximum bail and punishments allowed by law.

## SECTION 4

The Village President and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Orland Park further resolve to strongly affirm a vote of no confidence in Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx's performance.

## SECTION 5

The Village President and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Orland Park further resolve to call on Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx to resign in order to help restore the public's confidence in the criminal justice system.

## SECTION 6

The Village President and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Orland Park further resolve to call upon other elected bodies to approve similar resolutions.

## SECTION 7

This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption as provided by law