

July 21, 2014

The Honorable Edward M. Burke
Chairman, Chicago City Council Committee on Finance
121 N. La Salle, Room 302
Chicago, IL 60602

The Honorable Anthony Beale
Alderman, City of Chicago
121 N. La Salle
Chicago, IL 60602

Dear Chairman Burke and Alderman Beale:

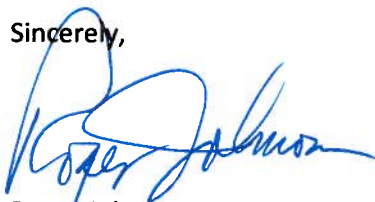
On behalf of the roughly 200,000 family farmer, rancher, and rural resident members of National Farmers Union, I write in strong support of your proposed ordinance to require Chicago self-service gas stations to offer E15 fuel.

The proposal offers consumers a choice at the pump which will lead to numerous health and environmental benefits. Importantly, increasing the amount of ethanol in fuel will reduce pollution and carcinogens in the air that lead to illnesses such as cancer. Ethanol also greatly reduces greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change. Compared to traditional gasoline, Argonne National Laboratory has found that corn ethanol reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 34 percent.

The ethanol industry is very important to the Illinois economy, and Illinois is the third largest producer of ethanol in the nation. The Illinois ethanol industry supports 73,156 jobs and creates \$17.5 billion in economic output annually. Giving Chicago's consumers a choice at the pump will continue to boost the Illinois economy.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Roger Johnson
President
National Farmers Union



Norbert Brauer
President
Illinois Farmers Union

cc: Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Deputy Mayor Steve Koch